



RACKET SQUAD

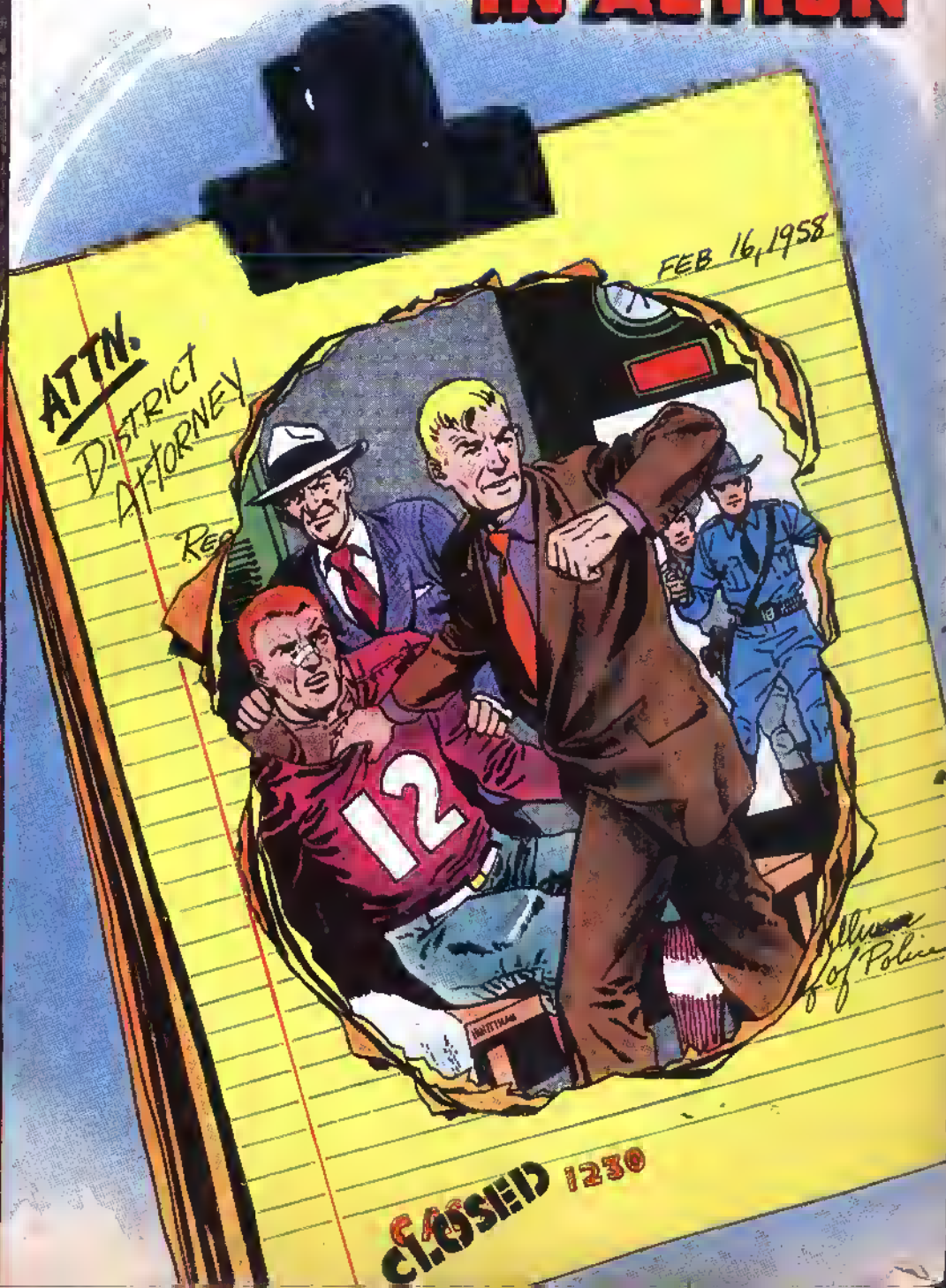
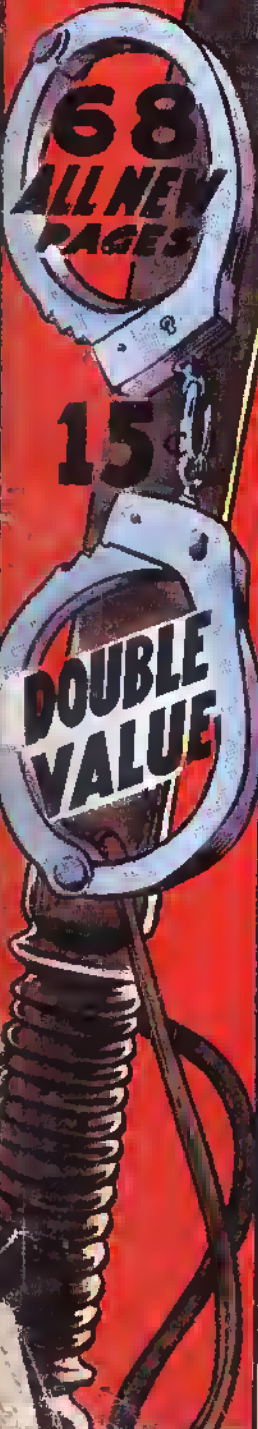
APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

MARCH

15¢

IN ACTION

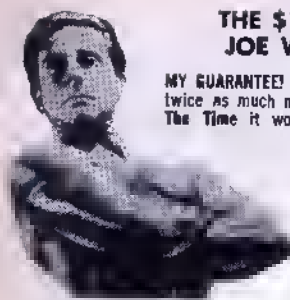
A CHARLTON PUBLICATION



The image features a dense background collage of vintage comic book covers. Titles visible include "Supermouse", "JETTA", "MYSTERY COMICS", "FANTASTIC TALES", "COSMO CAT", "STARTLING COMICS", "STRANGE MYSTERIES", "DARING ADVENTURES", "FAMOUS FUNNIES", "HILARIOUS RAUCOUS", "TEEN-AGE SWEETHEART OF THE 21st CENTURY", "DUCK", "EERIE", "EXCITING COMICS", "CASPER CAT", "BARNYARD COMICS", and "STRANGE WORLDS". The covers depict various genres including superhero action, mystery, science fiction, and humor. Overlaid centrally is a large, dark purple speech bubble with a thick black outline. Inside the bubble, the text "WEB COMIC UNIVERSE.COM" is written in a bold, white, sans-serif font with a slight drop shadow effect.

THE \$10,000 CHALLENGE ONLY JOE WEIDER DARES TO MAKE!

MY GUARANTEE! Use my system for training and you will gain twice as much muscle and triple your power in less than Half The Time it would take if you followed any other method.



"The Muscle Builder"
"Trainer of The Champions"

"MR. AMERICA" "MR. UNIVERSE"

CLANCY ROSS, world's best developed man, says: "You can be a mountain of mighty muscles — with power oozing out of every pore in your power-packed, jet-charged body! Do what I did — what thousands of other Herculean Weider-trained champions did — follow Weider as your leader — mail that coupon for your **FREE TRIAL COURSE TODAY!**"



CLANCY ROSS, Man of power-laden muscles — mighty 26-inch arms, 50-inch chest, shoulders of iron 8 yard wide!

**ONLY 7 SHORT WEEKS TO
THAT DYNAMIC, RUGGED HE-MAN
BODY YOU ALWAYS WANTED**

**ADD 3 INCHES OF STEEL-LIKE
MUSCLES TO YOUR ARMS...
4 "POWER PACKED" INCHES OF MUSCLES TO YOUR CHEST!**

Says JOE WEIDER, "The Muscle Builder" and "Trainer of the Champions"

IN half the time, with twice the ease, in the privacy of your own room, in just a few minutes daily, I will, through my **TRIPLE PROGRESSION COURSE**, slap inches of steel muscles to your pipe-stem arms, pack your chest with power and size, give you litiguard shoulders, dynamic, speedy athletic legs — add Jet-Charged strength to every muscle in your body. I don't care if you're

short or tall, skinny or fat, office-worker, laborer, school-boy, or businessman, I must make a new virile he-man out of you, and also . . . help build "inner strength" that will give you that virile look, that women admire and men envy. Here's what I did for Clancy Ross, one of the many thousands of weaklings I turned into He-Man.



**NOTHING TO BUY!
YES THAT'S RIGHT!**

A-C-T-I-O-N

IS THE KEY TO STRENGTH! MAKE YOUR FIRST HE-MAN DECISION TO-DAY! Rush in this coupon for your free trial course. You have nothing to lose but your weakness.

AMAZING FREE TRIAL OFFER

**Don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity
LET ME PROVE TO YOU, AT MY
OWN EXPENSE, EVERYTHING
I SAY CAN BE DONE!**

FREE MUSCLE BUILDING TRIAL OFFER. Fill out coupon and mail to me. I'll rush you my **GIANT 32 page course**, filled with exercises, training secrets, heroic photos of mighty champions and private advice on how you can become a muscle star fast! This sensational offer is good only to males between 33 and 65 in normal good health.

JOE WEIDER
801 Palisade Avenue, Union City, N. J.

Dept. CH-12A

Shoot the works, Joe! Rush me my **FREE INTRODUCTORY POWER-PACKED, MUSCLE-BUILDING COURSE**. (I enclose only 10¢ to cover cost of handling and mailing.) I am under no obligation.

NAME _____ AGE _____

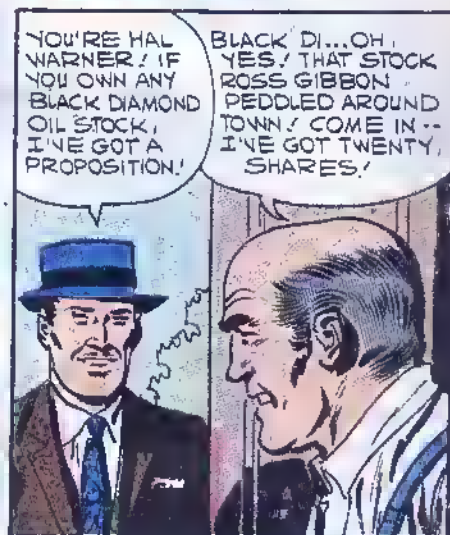
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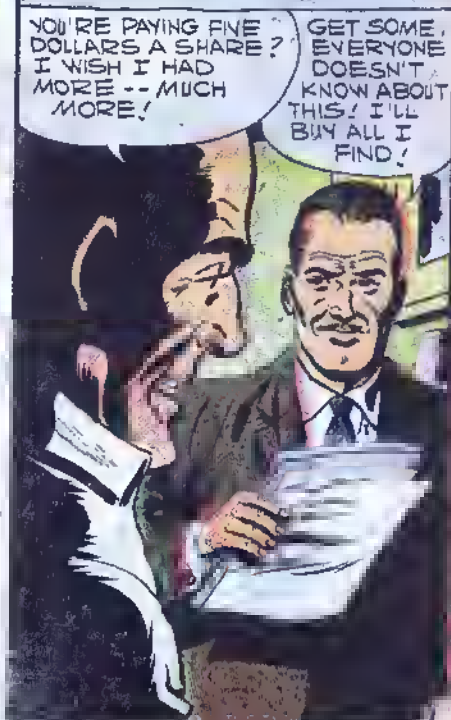
STOCK BROKER ROSS GIBBON SOLD THE STOCK TO EVERYONE HE KNEW IN HIS HOME TOWN -- WHEN HE FIRST INTRODUCED BLACK DIAMOND OIL INC., IT SOLD FOR EIGHTY CENTS A SHARE! GIBBON OWNED A TREMENDOUS AMOUNT, HE RUEFULLY ADMITTED WHEN IT SEEMED WORTHLESS! AND HE DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THE STRANGER, HE WAS UNAWARE OF...

STOCK BROKER ROSS GIBBON SOLD THE STOCK TO EVERYONE HE KNEW IN HIS HOME TOWN -- WHEN HE FIRST INTRODUCED BLACK DIAMOND OIL INC., IT SOLD FOR EIGHTY CENTS A SHARE! GIBBON OWNED A TREMENDOUS AMOUNT, HE RUEFULLY ADMITTED WHEN IT SEEMED WORTHLESS! AND HE DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THE STRANGER, HE WAS UNAWARE OF...

The BIG PAY - OFF



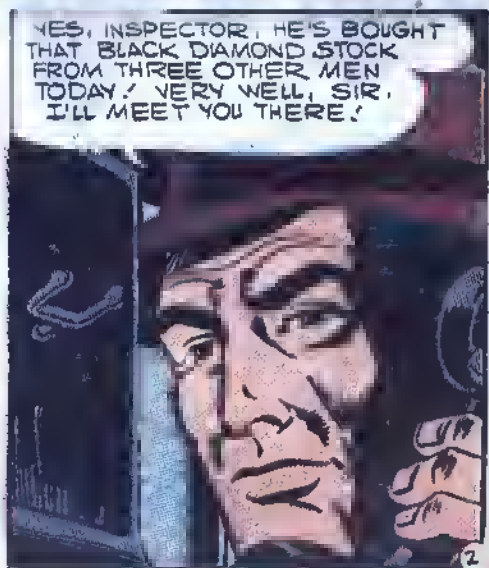
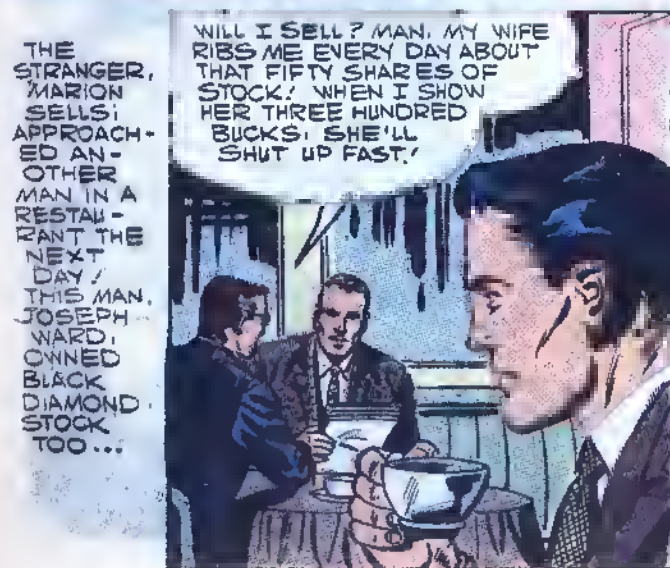
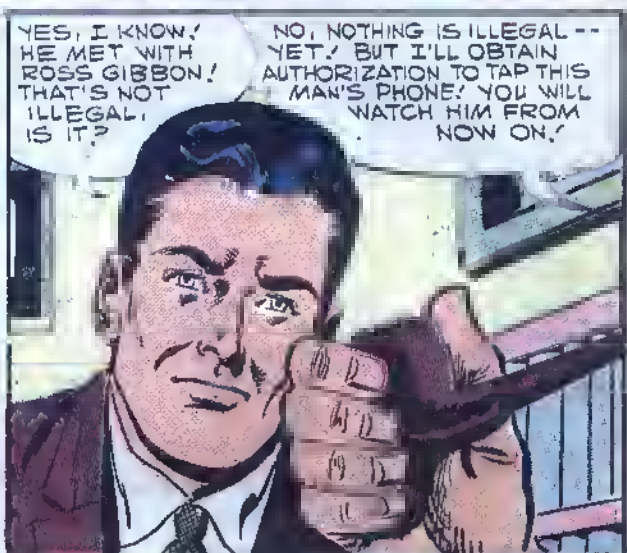
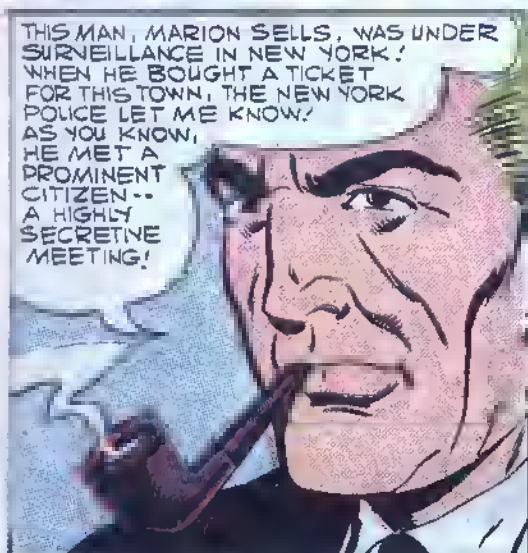
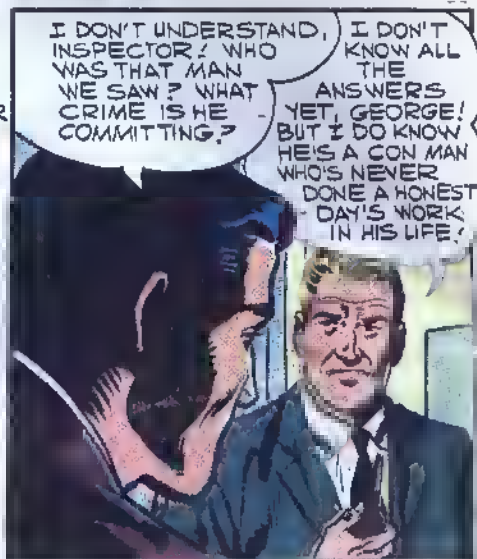
ROSS GIBBON HAD TOLD THE MEN
HE SOLD THE STOCK TO IT WAS A
GAMBLE THAT MIGHT FIZZLE -OR
IT MIGHT PAY OFF BIG. NOW, HAL
WARNER FOUND HIMSELF GETTING
THE BIG PAY-OFF...



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

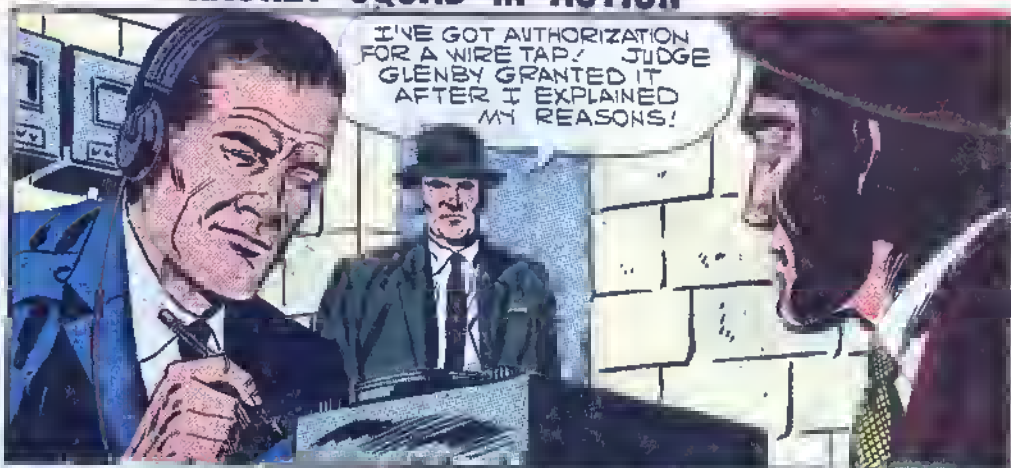


IN THE OFFICE OF INSPECTOR MELLEN, CHIEF OF THE RACKET SQUAD, GEORGE LAKE, A DETECTIVE, LEARNED MORE...

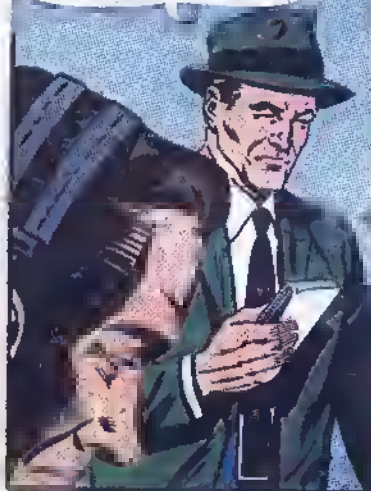


RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

THE
RACKET
SQUAD
DETECTIVE
MET HIS
CHIEF
IN
THE
BASEMENT
OF
A
NEARBY
HOTEL...



HE'S CALLED RALPH BURCH, T.J. SAVAGE, JOHN WEDGES AND A FEW OTHERS! ALL OF THESE PEOPLE HAVE ONE THING IN COMMON...



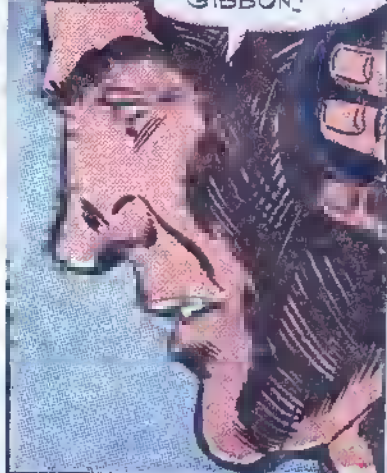
I CAN GUESS-- THEY ALL OWN BLACK DIAMOND STOCK!



TRUE--AND THEY ALL BOUGHT IT FROM ROSS GIBBON! AND GIBBON HAD TO BE THE MAN WHO SUPPLIED SELLS WITH THE LIST OF PURCHASERS!

JUST THEN, THE BREAK THEY WERE WAITING FOR CAME THROUGH! SELLS HAD GOT TEN A CALL FROM...

HOLD IT! HE'S TALKING TO A MAN HE CALLS R.G.! IT'S GIBBON!



THEY'RE GOING TO MEET SOMEWHERE! WE'VE GOT TO BE THERE TOO--LET'S GO!



MARION SELLS WAS WATCH-FUL LEAVING THE HOTEL! INSPECTOR MELLEN WAS WITH HIM ALL THE WAY

I GAMBLERD THAT HE'D COME HERE! IT'S THE ONLY PLACE IN THIS PART OF TOWN STILL OPEN! LAKE IS INSIDE ALREADY... WAITING!



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

DETECTIVE GEORGE LAKE HAD ACTED FAST! HE USED HIS HAT TO INDICATE ONE EMPTY BOOTH WAS TAKEN, PUT A NEWSPAPER IN ANOTHER, AND LAKE HIMSELF SLOUCHED IN A THIRD, APPARENTLY ASLEEP! THAT LEFT ONE...



LAKE WORKED THAT WELL! NOW, WE HAVE TO WAIT FOR ROSS GIBBON TO SHOW!



THERE'S GIBBON! HE'S GOING BACK THERE NOW!



ROSS GIBBON WAS CAREFUL... HE EVEN MADE SURE OF THE SLEEPING MAN...

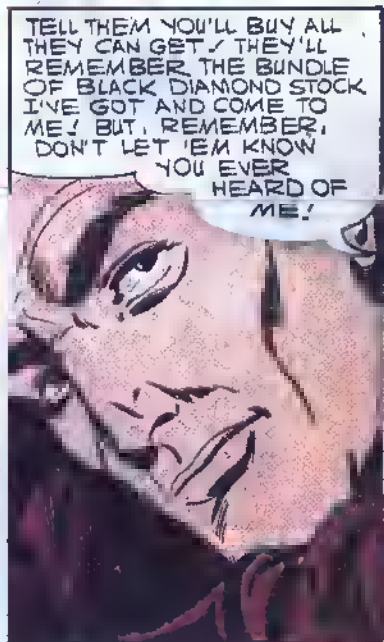
HEY, MACK, YOU CAN'T SLEEP HERE!

LET HIM ALONE! HE'S HARMLESS! HE WAS HERE WHEN I ARRIVED!



I'VE GOT 'EM SET UP, ROSIE! I PAID OUT ELEVEN HUNDRED BUCKS FOR THIS WALL-PAPER TODAY! THEY'RE EAGER NOW!

DON'T CALL ME ROSIE! I'M CLEAN IN THIS TOWN! START YOUR RE-TURN CALLS TOMORROW, SELLS! BEG THEM FOR MORE STOCK!



TELL THEM YOU'LL BUY ALL THEY CAN GET! THEY'LL REMEMBER THE BUNDLE OF BLACK DIAMOND STOCK I'VE GOT AND COME TO ME! BUT, REMEMBER, DON'T LET 'EM KNOW YOU EVER HEARD OF ME!

GIBBON LEFT A MOMENT LATER... SELLS A FEW SECONDS LATER! AND INSPECTOR MELEN HAD A FEW MORE FACTS TO ADD TO HIS GROWING DOSSIER...

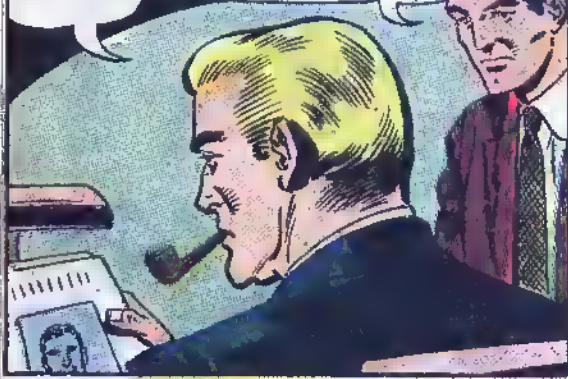


HE CALLED GIBBON ROSIE! GIBBON DIDN'T LIKE IT, SIR!

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

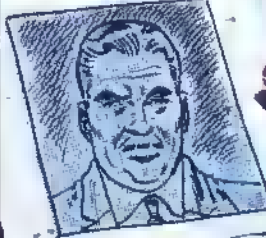
ROSIE!
ROSIE
AND HIS
PONEY
STOCKS!
THAT
SOUNDS
FAMILIAR!

GIBBON HAS BEEN OUT OF
TOWN A GREAT DEAL -- BUT
HE GREW UP IN THIS TOWN!
I'VE KNOWN HIM SINCE I
WAS A KID! HE
CAN'T HAVE A
CRIMINAL RECORD!



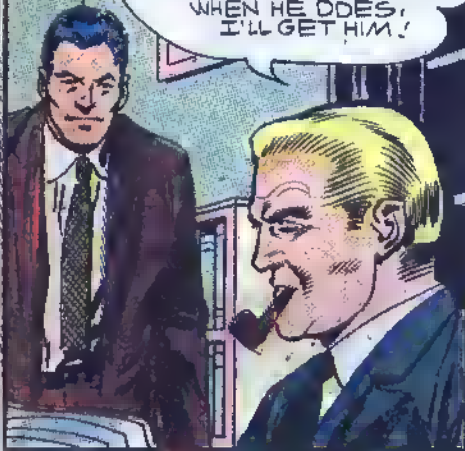
GIBBON WAS OUT OF TOWN FOR TWO
YEARS ONCE -- EIGHTEEN MONTHS
OF THAT TIME WAS SPENT IN
PRISON! GIBBON AND THE
SWINDLER, ROSWELL
BURTON, ARE THE
SAME MAN!

ROSWELL
BURTON



GIBBON'S OUT TO SWINDLE
AGAIN -- HE HASN'T DONE
ANYTHING ILLEGAL YET
BUT HE WILL! AND
WHEN HE DOES,
I'LL GET HIM!

MARION
SELLS
CALLED
ON THE
EX-
STOCK-
HOLDERS
AGAIN THE
NEXT DAY!



MAYBE THE MAN WHO
SOLD YOU THE STOCK
HAS MORE! I'D BUY
TEN THOUSAND SHARES
IF YOU HAD THEM!

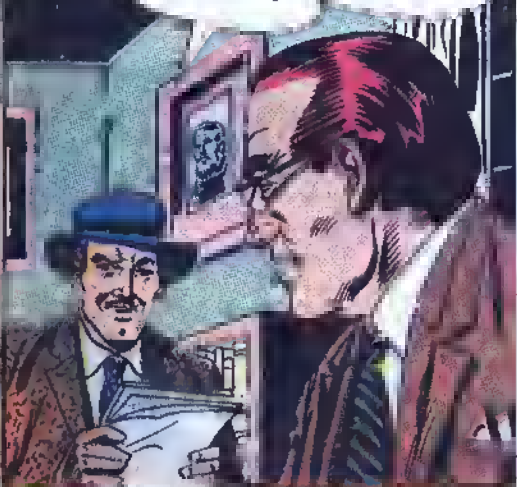
I'M NOT A
BIG
OPERATOR,
MR. SELLS!
BUT MAYBE
GIBBON
WOULD SELL
ME MORE!



LATER

GET MORE -- I'LL PAY
TEN DOLLARS A SHARE
FOR IT!

SEVEN-
TEEN
VICTIMS
HAD
BEEN
PRE-
PARED
BY
SUN-
DOWN!
AND
ROSS
GIBBON
WAS
WAITING
AT
HOME
FOR
HIS
FIRST
VICTIM...



I'VE GOT A SEARCH WARRANT
TO USE IF I NEED ONE --
BUT I WON'T USE IT YET!

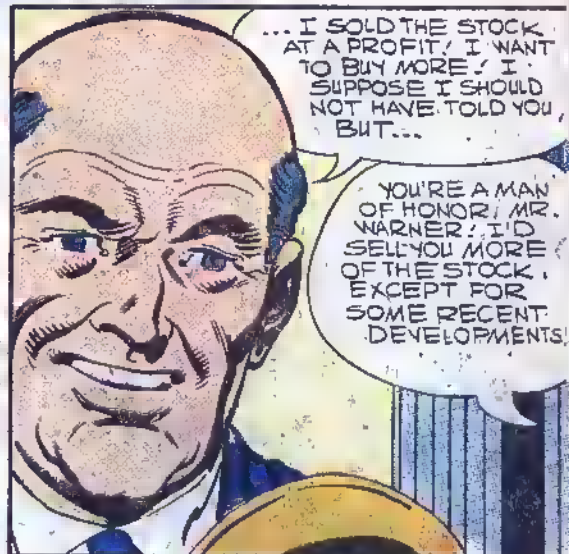


RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

GIBBON'S FIRST VISITOR WAS WARNER.

YOU SAID YOU WANTED TO SEE ME ABOUT THE BLACK DIAMOND STOCK. I'M SORRY YOU LOST ON THAT BUT...

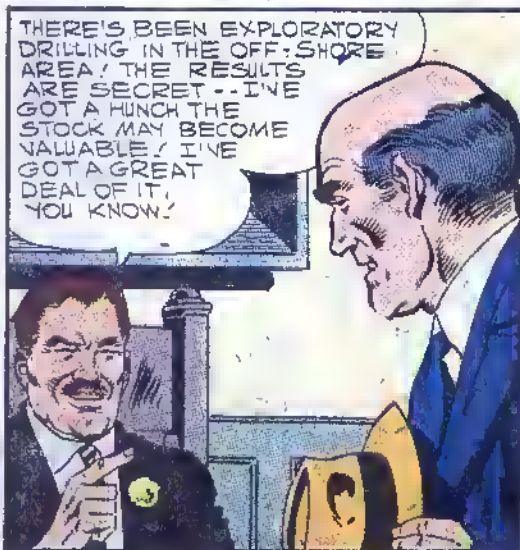
I DIDN'T LOSE, MR. GIBBON! I SHOULDN'T TELL YOU BUT...



... I SOLD THE STOCK AT A PROFIT! I WANT TO BUY MORE! I SUPPOSE I SHOULD NOT HAVE TOLD YOU BUT...

YOU'RE A MAN OF HONOR, MR. WARNER! I'D SELL YOU MORE OF THE STOCK, EXCEPT FOR SOME RECENT DEVELOPMENTS!

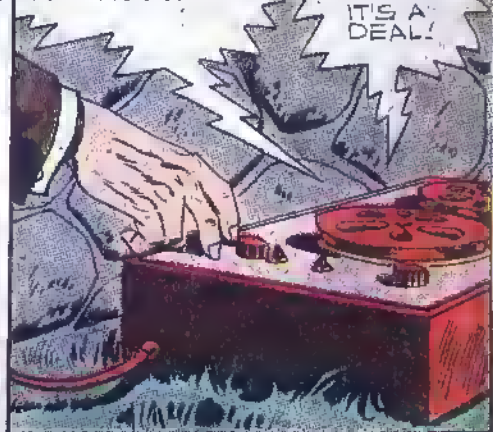
THERE'S BEEN EXPLORATORY DRILLING IN THE OFF-SHORE AREA! THE RESULTS ARE SECRET -- I'VE GOT A HUNCH THE STOCK MAY BECOME VALUABLE! I'VE GOT A GREAT DEAL OF IT, YOU KNOW!



GIBBON LET HIMSELF BE 'PERSUADED' TO SELL TWENTY SEVEN THOUSAND SHARES OF STOCK IN THE NEXT TWO DAYS... EVERY SALE RECORDED -- EVERY PHONE CALL TAPPED...

I'LL PAY YOU FIVE DOLLARS A SHARE FOR ONE THOUSAND SHARES, MR. GIBBON!

I CAN'T REFUSE AN OFFER LIKE THAT, WARNER! IT'S A DEAL!



OUR MAN IS LEAVING NOW! TAIL HIM! HE'S PROBABLY GOING TO SELL'S HOTEL!



LATER... HE CONVERTED EVERYTHING HE OWNS INTO CASH! HE MAY GET AWAY!

NOT A CHANCE! BE SIDES, HE'S GOT TO DO ONE MORE THING TO MAKE A CONNECTION ABSOLUTELY POSITIVE!



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

RACKET SQUAD MAN WAS NEAR ROSS GIBBON ALL THE WAY! HE WAS SEEN ENTERING THE HOTEL... A RACKET SQUAD DETECTIVE TOOK HIM UP IN THE ELEVATOR...



HE'S IN SELLS' ROOM NOW, SIR! THE ROOM IS *BUGGED* AND THE PHONE IS TAPPED!

GOOD! CARNEY'S IN THE NEXT ROOM, EH? I'LL GO THERE!



* DICTAPHONE CONCEALED!

CARNEY WAS ON THE JOB, RECORDING THE ACTIVITIES AND CALLS OF MARION SELLS! SELLS, TOO, WAS READY TO RUN...

GOT MY DOUGH, ROSS? FIVE GRAND... I'VE GOT IT RIGHT HERE IN CASH! STOP BEING SO NERVOUS! SELLS, WE PULLED THIS BEAUTIFULLY!

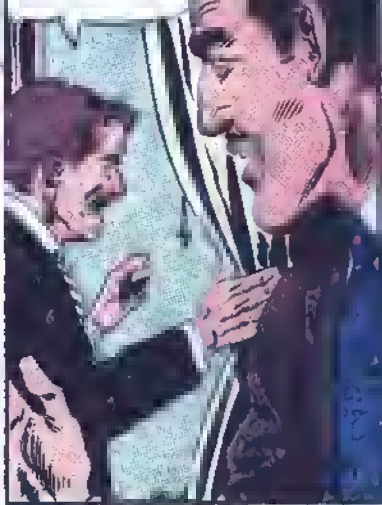


I SOLD THE FOOLS THE STOCK -- THEY'LL BE WAITING TO SELL IT TO YOU AND DOUBLE THEIR MONEY! WE SET IT UP NICE -- THEY FELL FOR IT!



THAT LINE WILL CONVICT THEM! LET'S GET THEM!

THERE'S A WIRE! IT DOESN'T... THEY'RE ONTO US! THAT'S A DICTAPHONE!



YOU FIRST, SELLS! GO ON -- YOUR BUNGLING GOT US INTO THIS!



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

SELLS WAS FRIGHTENED--AND DANGEROUS FOR THAT REASON! HE BOLTED DOWN THE HALL, GUN READY, AND...



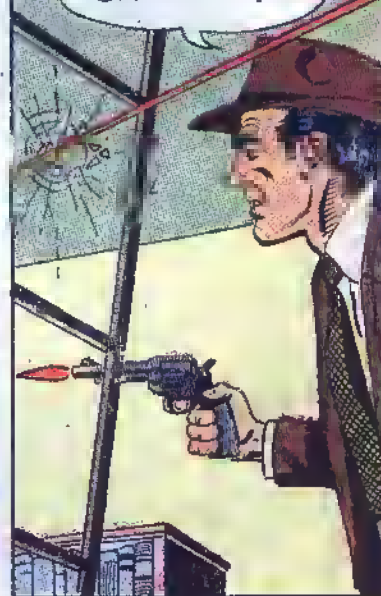
I'M FINISHED IF THEY GET ME! WAIT, THERE'S A FIRE ESCAPE!



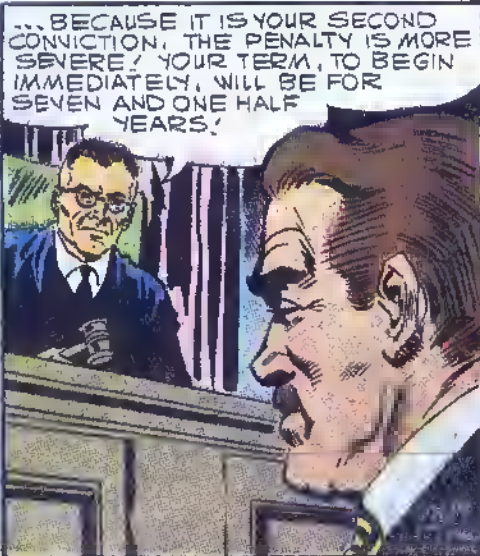
WHAT TH...?



DON'T BE A...
OKAY, THEN!

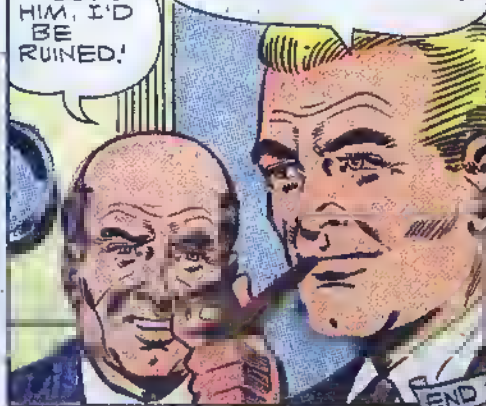


THE RACKET SQUAD INSPECTOR WRAPPED UP HIS CASE NICE AND TIGHT! HE'D HAD AUTHORIZATION FOR THE TELEPHONE TAP AND THE RECORDERS-- HE HAD THE TESTIMONY OF THE MEN GIBBON HAD FLEECED...



WE OWE YOU A LOT, INSPECTOR! IF YOU HADN'T NABBED HIM, I'D BE RUINED!

MEN LIKE GIBBON COULDN'T OPERATE WITHOUT MEN LIKE YOU, WARNER! NEXT TIME, DON'T EXPECT MIRACLES FROM YOUR INVESTMENTS!

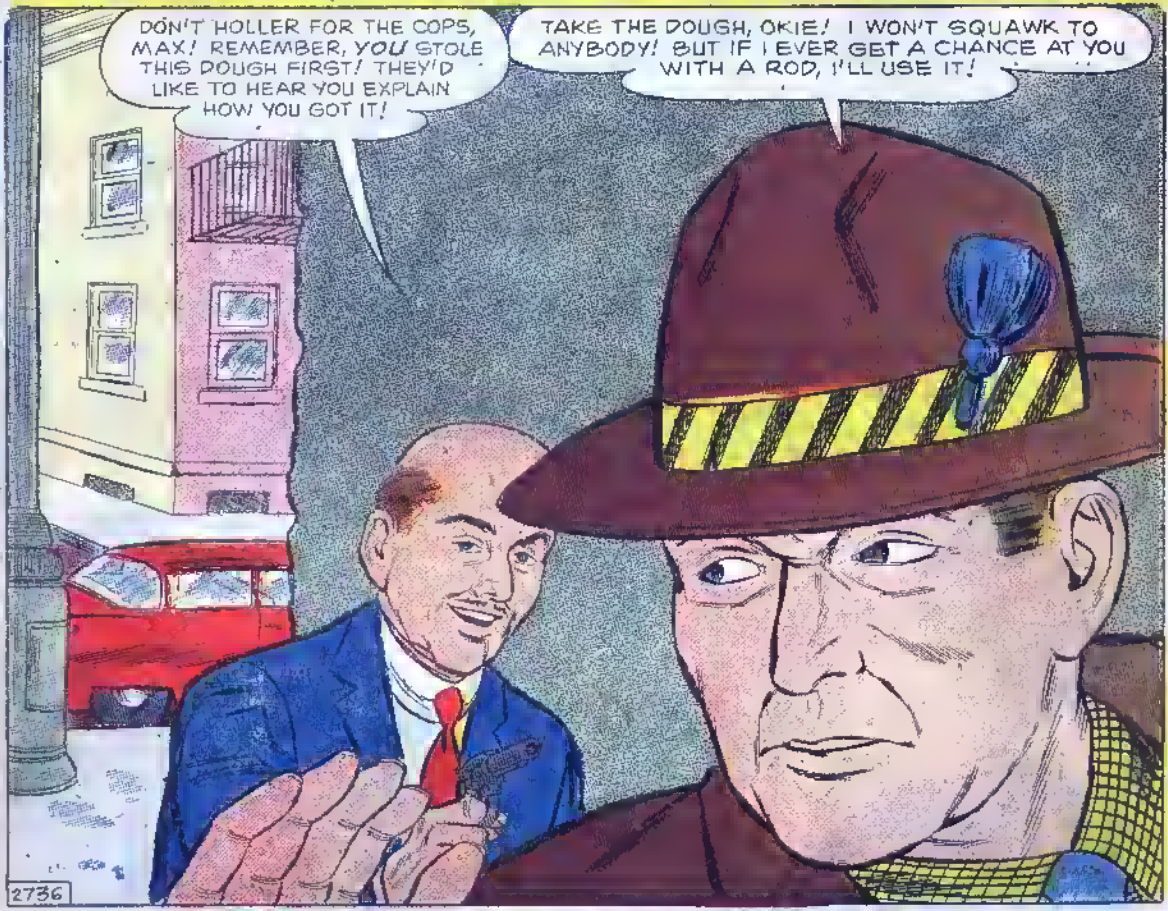


END

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

OKIE BOYD WAS TOUGH TO FIGURE! RACKET SQUAD DETECTIVE JIM FANNING KNEW ABOUT BOYD'S CRIMINAL RECORD...AND HE KNEW BOYD HAD A LOT OF MONEY TO SPEND! HE DIDN'T WORK... WHERE DID HE GET THE CASH? THAT WAS FANNING'S PROBLEM WHEN HE WENT AFTER BOYD, THE...

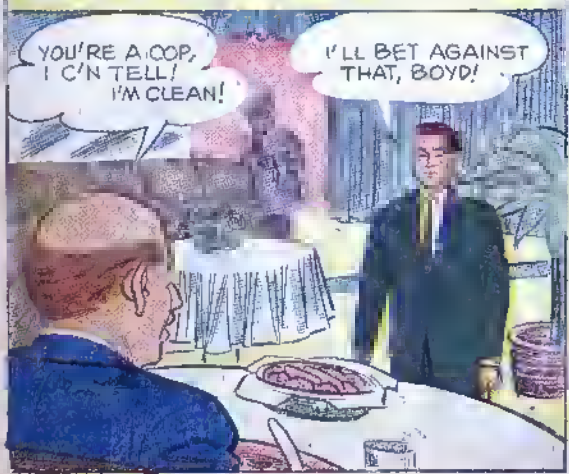
THIEVES' THIEF!



DON'T HOLLER FOR THE COPS, MAX! REMEMBER, YOU STOLE THIS DOUGH FIRST! THEY'D LIKE TO HEAR YOU EXPLAIN HOW YOU GOT IT!

TAKE THE DOUGH, OKIE! I WON'T SQUAWK TO ANYBODY! BUT IF I EVER GET A CHANCE AT YOU WITH A ROD, I'LL USE IT!

OKIE BOYD HAD BEEN AROUND TROOP CITY FOR A MONTH! JIM FANNING HAD RECOGNIZED HIM THE FIRST WEEK HE WAS THERE! HE PAID A SOCIAL CALL ON BOYD IN AN EXPENSIVE RESTAURANT...



YOU'RE A COP, I C'N TELL! I'M CLEAN!

I'LL BET AGAINST THAT, BOYD!

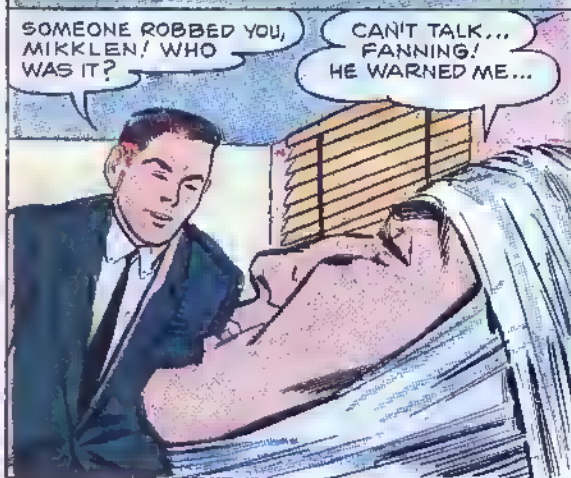
NOBODY'S MADE ANY COMPLAINTS, HAVE THEY, FANNING? I HAVEN'T BEEN CAUGHT IN THE COOKIE JAR!

NO ONE'S BEEN WATCHING YOU, BOYD! --UNTIL NOW! SEE YOU AROUND!



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

FANNING COULDN'T GET A THING ON BOYD! THEN FANNING LEARNED OF A CONCUSSION CASE AT THE HOSPITAL! A BOOKMAKER...



THERE WAS A MAN IN THE CROWD I'D SEEN BEFORE, SERGEANT! HIS NAME IS BOYD! HE SEEMED TO BE WATCHING WHILE I WAITED FOR AN AMBULANCE FOR MIKKLEN! THAT HELP?

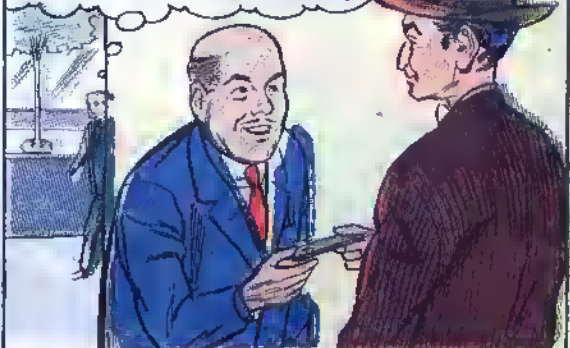


BOYD'S NOT WORKING BUT HE'S LIVING HIGH... FOR BOYD, THAT SPELLS LARCENY! AND WHO ARE THE ONLY PEOPLE WHO GET ROBBED AND NEVER SQUAWK? BOOKIES! BOYD'S HIJACKING LAWBREAKERS LIKE HIMSELF!



JIM FANNING WORKED ON OKIE BOYD'S CASE BECAUSE BOYD WORKED IT LIKE A RACKET! MOST TIMES, HE DIDN'T HAVE TO RESORT TO VIOLENCE... FANNING LEARNED THAT...

CARTER MAKES BOOK... WE'VE ARRESTED HIM OFTEN! THERE HE IS NOW... PAYING OFF BOYD! AND I CAN'T PROVE A THING!

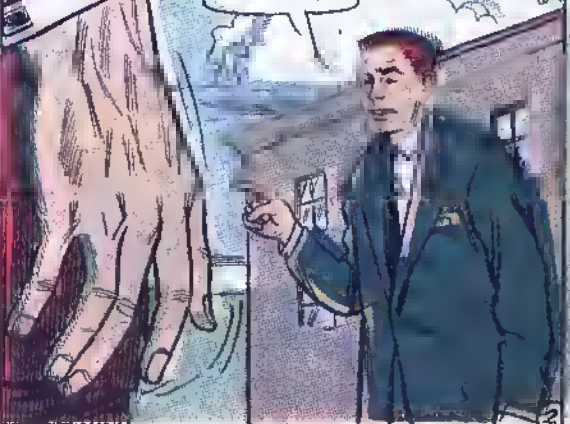


PAYING OFF BOYD, CARTER? WHY?

WHO? I DUNNO WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT!



I KNOW YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO MAKE A COMPLAINT, CARTER! BUT WE'LL PICK YOU UP SOON ANYHOW ON A GAMBLING CHARGE! I'LL HAVE THE BOOK THROWN AT YOU!



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

FANNING KEPT TABS ON BOYD... HE ASKED OTHER SQUADS TO KEEP HIM INFORMED... AND THE UNIFORMED POLICE COOPERATED

BOYD'S IN A GAME UP AT FLOTO'S, SARGE! THINK THE DEPARTMENT WILL MAKE A RAID?

NO, FLOTO'S SPOTTERS WOULD GIVE HIM TOO MUCH WARNING! THANKS... I'LL DRIFT OVER THAT WAY!



INSIDE FLOTO'S, OKIE BOYD WAS LOSING... AND HE DIDN'T MIND! THE BIG WINNER, EARL WALES, WAS HIS PAL!

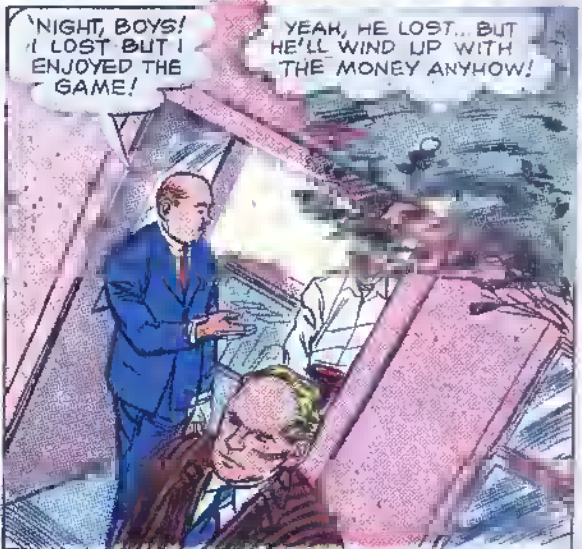
THAT BREAKS ME, EARL! READY TO QUIT?

YEAH! I'M GOIN' TO TAKE THIS DOUGH HOME AND HIDE IT UNDER THE MATTRESS!



'NIGHT, BOYS! I LOST BUT I ENJOYED THE GAME!

YEAH, HE LOST... BUT HE'LL WIND UP WITH THE MONEY ANYHOW!



OKAY, LAUGHING BOY... JUST KEEP WALKIN'... AND DROP THE ROLL ON THE SIDEWALK!... IF YUH SQUAWK TUH THE COPPERS, I'LL SEE THAT YUH'RE PUT AWAY FOR KEEPS!

WHAT? YOU'RE CRAZY! YOU'RE KIDDIN', AIN'T YUH, OKIE?



MAYBE THIS WILL CONVINCE YOU!



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

JIM FANNING HAD SEEN TWO MEN EMERGE FROM FLOTO'S PLACE! HE LET THEM GET A HALF BLOCK AHEAD... AND RAN AS SOON AS BOYD MADE HIS PLAY!

HOLD IT, BOYD! STAND RIGHT THERE!

IT'S A BULL! AND IT SOUNDS LIKE FANNING!



HE CAN'T MAKE AN IDENTIFICATION IN THIS LIGHT! I'M IN THE CLEAR IF I GET AWAY!



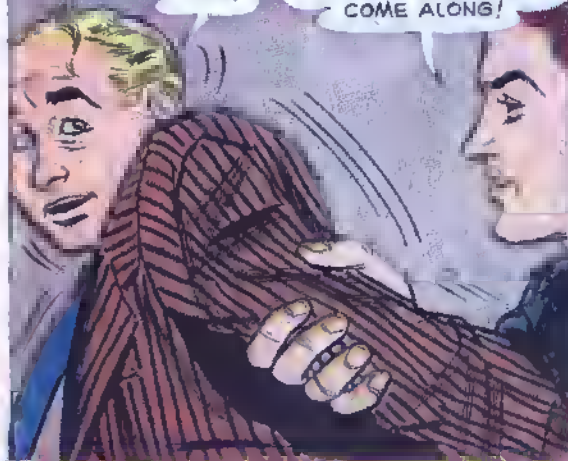
DID BOYD GET YOUR MONEY? IT WAS OKIE BOYD, WASN'T IT?

YEAH, THAT DOUBLE-CROSSIN' CRUMB TRIED... ARE YOU A COP?



LEGGIO! I'M NOT MAKIN' A COMPLAINT! I DON'T KNOW WHO THAT GUY WAS!

WHETHER YOU MAKE A COMPLAINT OR NOT YOU'RE A MATERIAL WITNESS TO A FELONY! COME ALONG!



OKIE BOYD WAS WATCHING! HE WAS HURT FROM A FLESH WOUND IN THE SHOULDER BUT HE COULD MOVE ALL RIGHT...

EARL BLEW THE WHISTLE ON ME! I WARNED 'IM... I'LL FIX HIS WAGON!



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

THE VICTIM WAS A FRIGHTENED MAN! HE TALKED... HE HAD TO!

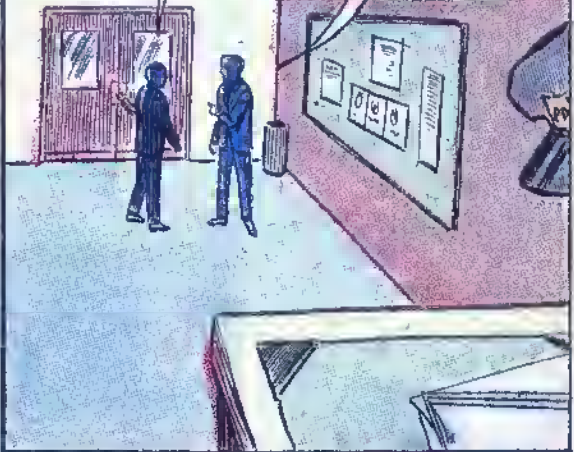
SURE, BOYD TRIED TO ROB ME! IT DOESN'T MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE NOW! HE'LL THINK I CAME DOWN HERE TO SQUEAL! HE'LL BE GUNNIN' FOR ME!

I KNOW THAT, WALES! BOYD'LL BE AFTER YOU... BUT WE'LL BE AROUND!



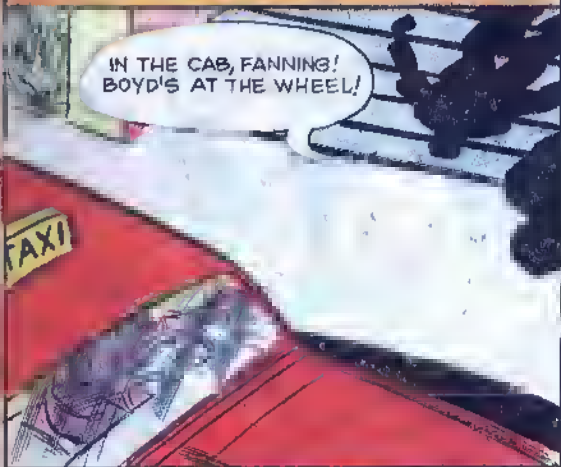
HE'S... HE'S OUT THERE WAITING FOR ME!

I HOPE SO! I'VE GOT MEN OUTSIDE, TOO!



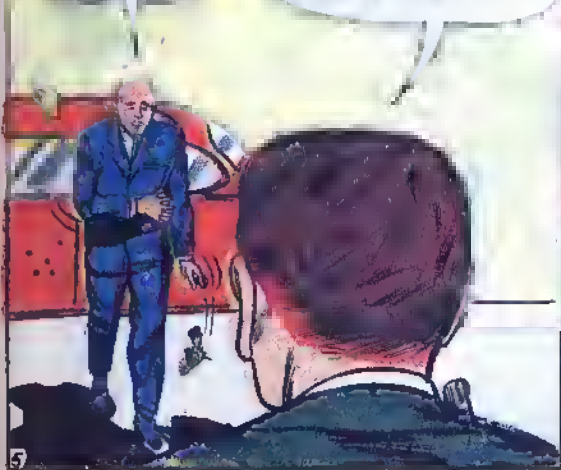
BOYD, WHOSE IMMUNITY FROM THE LAW STEMMED FROM HIS VICTIMS' FEARS, HAD TO ACT!... IF HE DIDN'T, OTHERS WOULD TESTIFY TOO!

IN THE CAB, FANNING! BOYD'S AT THE WHEEL!



I'M THROUGH, FANNING! WALES WILL PAY, THOUGH!

NO... YOU'VE GOT NO FRIENDS NOW, BOYD! YOU'RE GOING AWAY FOR A LONG TIME!



LATER... YOU'RE A RACKET SQUAD MAN, JIM! WHY DID YOU HANDLE THE BOYD CASE?

BOYD HAD A RACKET--HE WAS A SHAKE-DOWN MAN! ANYONE WHO WAS CROOKED WAS HIS VICTIM!



END

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

WHEN DAVE RENALDI WAS APPOINTED A DETECTIVE AND ASSIGNED TO THE SAFE AND SOFT SQUAD HE WAS JUBILANT! DAVE THOUGHT HE'D SEE EXCITEMENT EVERY DAY--INSTEAD HE SPENT ENDLESS HOURS DOING NOTHING BUT WATCH A WAREHOUSE! HE AND DETECTIVE SAM KOENIG WERE ON A

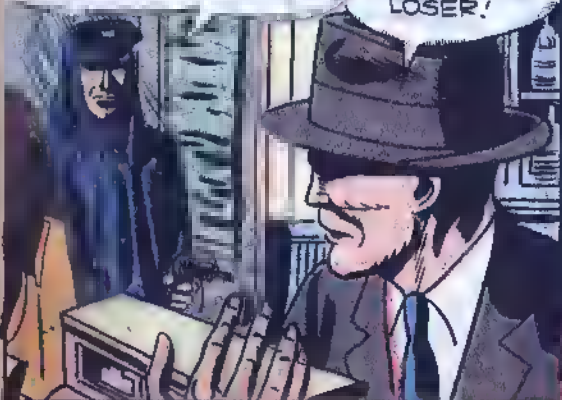
STAKE-OUT



PATROLMAN DAVE RENALDI READ THE POLICE BULLETINS EVERY DAY. AS A RESULT, HE SPOTTED MAX SIGRID ENTERING A LIQUOR STORE AND...

DROP THE GUN, MAX!
YOU'RE UNDER ARREST!

WHA... I'M A
THREE TIME
LOSER!



LET'S GO!



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

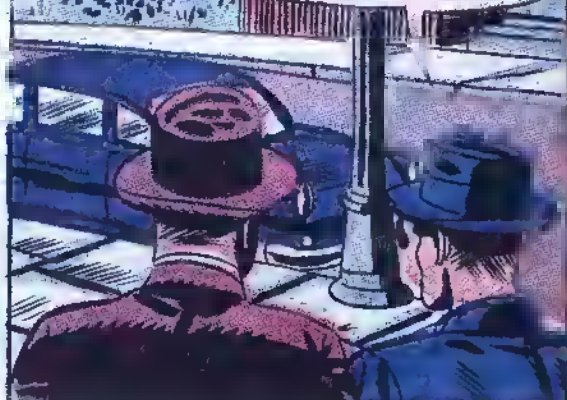
PATROLMAN RENALDI, ON THE FORCE TWO YEARS, DID A NICE NEAT JOB. AS A RESULT, HE WAS MADE DETECTIVE, THIRD GRADE, AND...

YOU'LL WORK WITH SAM KOENIG, DAVE! HE'S WITH THE SAFE AND LOFT SQUAD!



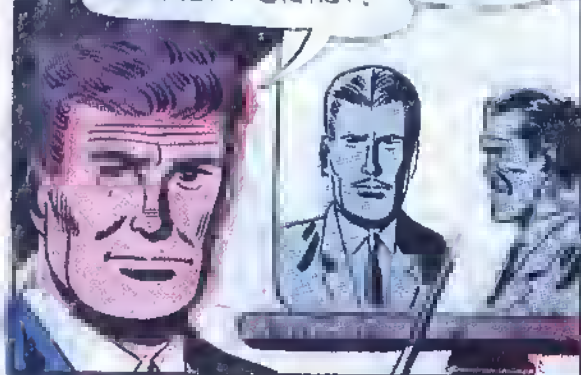
HOW DO WE OPERATE, SAM?

WE MOSTLY SIT IN OUR SQUAD CAR SOMEWHERE WAITING! SOMETIMES WE WASTE A LOT OF TIME WAITING! SOMETIMES THE WAITING PAYS OFF!



KOENIG TOOK RENALDI TO HEADQUARTERS FIRST! HE SHOWED HIM THE KNOWN CRIMINALS WHO SPECIALIZED IN SAFE AND LOFT ROBBERIES FIRST...

WE WATCH FOR THESE MEN, TAIL THEM WHEN WE GET A LINE ON THEM TO SEE IF THEY'RE GOING STRAIGHT OR NOT!

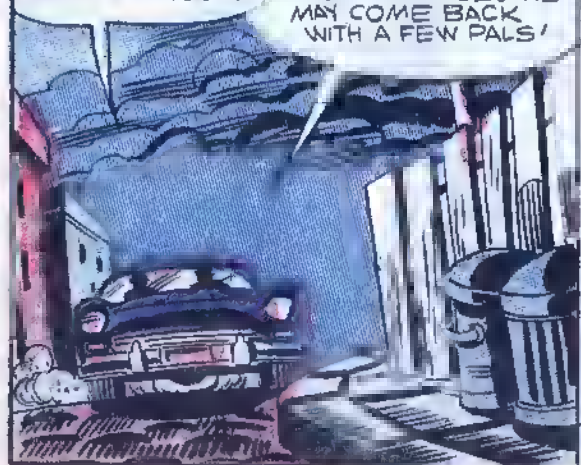


THIS ONE IS JAMES L. WEBER! THE BOYS CALL HIM SHIV! HE JUST QUIT A JOB WITH A FURRIER! I'VE BEEN WATCHING HIM AND HIS PALS!



WHERE ARE WE GOING? IS THIS SHIV WEBER'S NEIGHBORHOOD?

NO -- HE WORKED NEAR HERE! WE'RE GOING TO WATCH THE FURRIER'S PLACE! HE MAY COME BACK WITH A FEW PALS!



WHEN HE DOES, SHIV'LL CARRY A GUN ON THIS JOB! HE'S A THREE TIME LOSER! THE NEXT TIME HE GOES TO PRISON, IT'LL BE FOR LIFE!



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

DAVE RENALDI GOT TO HATE THAT BUILDING! THEY SPENT MOST OF THEIR TIME IN THE NEXT WEEK, PARKED OUTSIDE, ON THE SECOND DAY, THEY ANSWERED AN "ASSIST PATROLMAN" SIGNAL ON THE POLICE BROADCAST...

YOU'LL GET THE ACTION YOU'VE BEEN CRAVING NOW, DAVE! THAT ADDRESS IS A MOB HANGOUT!



DROP THAT GUN, YOU'RE UNDER ARREST!



BAM!



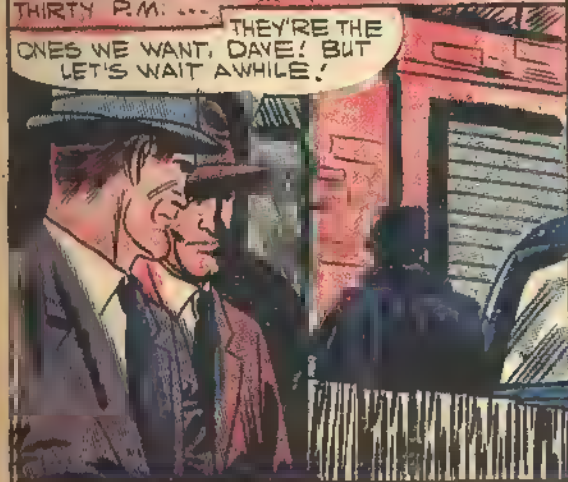
THAT ACTION EARNED DAVE RENALDI A COMMENDATION -- BUT IT DIDN'T INTERRUPT THEIR STAKE-OUT. THEIR WAIT FOR SHIV WEBER...

YOU DID A NICE JOB, DAVE! BUT DON'T GIVE WEBER ANY FREE SHOTS LIKE THE ONE YOU DID. WEBER DOESN'T MISS!



FINALLY, AFTER TWELVE DAYS ON STAKE-OUT, THEY GOT RESULTS! A DARK SEDAN STOPPED OUTSIDE THE BUILDING AT TEN THIRTY P.M. ...

THEY'RE THE ONES WE WANT, DAVE! BUT LET'S WAIT AWHILE!



HURRY IT UP, SHIV!

RELAX, BUZZ! THE ALARM'S OFF! WE'RE IN THE MONEY!



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

WEBER "BLEW" THE SAFE EXPERTLY! THEY CLEANED OUT ELEVEN THOUSAND IN CASH, THEN PICKED THE MOST VALUABLE FURS TO TAKE WITH THEM...

THESE FURS ARE WORTH PLENTY!



ALL CLEAR, BUZZ! COME ON!

DROP IT, WEBER! YOU'RE UNDER ARREST!



WEBER FIRED ONE SHOT, THEN RAN! HE WAS FAST, BUT DAVE WAS FASTER...



YEAH, WE GOT WEBER AND HIS PAL! SEND THE WAGON--AND TELL THE CAPTAIN RENALDI'S GOOD--TACKLED WEBER EVEN THOUGH WEBER HAD A GUN!



YES, DAVE RENALDI LEARNED THAT WAITING WAS THE BIGGEST PART OF HIS JOB-- BUT HE LEARNED THAT IT USUALLY PAID OFF WITH ARRESTS...

I'LL GET USED TO IT SOME DAY IF I'M LUCKY!



END

AMAZING PRECISION MINIATURE SECRET CAMERA

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only 2 x 1/4"

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Rush my Secret Camera and free roll of film for \$1.98 at once. If I am not 100% delighted I may return it after 10 Days Free Trial for prompt refund of the full purchase price.

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Easily concealed under a flower in your lapal. While they're kissing, you're photographing. Wow! Won't they be surprised? So many other ways to conceal it also.



Your girl friend and other bathing beauties will all relax in their natural poses and make a swell pin-up collection. Through a paper is just one of the many ways to go about it!

LOOK! FREE!

Order right away and receive FREE one roll of fresh film enough for 10 pictures. Additional film available at only 25c per roll of 10 exposures.

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Rush coupon immediately with \$1.00 plus 10c for postage and handling for each cannon or \$3.30 for all three. Sorry, no C.O.D.'s.

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Gentlemen: Rush the following to me,

Naval Gun @ \$1.10

Civil War Gun @ \$1.10

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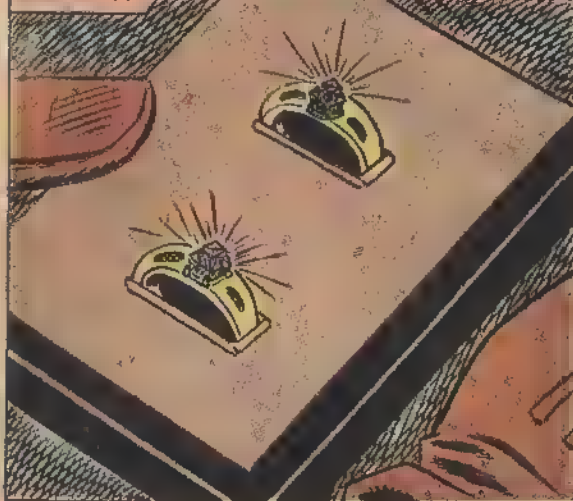
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Canadian and Foreign orders add 20c each per gun and send International Money Order.

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

THE BLUE-WHITE, FLAWLESS DIAMOND WAS BEAUTIFUL... BUT EQUALLY LOVELY WAS THE FINELY CUT, POLISHED DUPLICATE IN THE CLEVER HANDS OF ARTHUR FRENCH, JEWEL THIEF...



THE JEWELER WAS ELDERLY AND NOT TOO ALERT! IT WAS SIMPLE FOR FRENCH TO SHAKE HIS HEAD REGRETFULLY, PALM THE REAL STONE, AND HAND THE EXQUISITE DUPLICATE BACK TO MR. AMMEN!

IT'S A NICE BAUBLE-- BUT I CAN'T AFFORD THE SEVEN GRAND!

IT COST ME ALMOST THAT MUCH-- I WILL HAVE NO TROUBLE SELLING SUCH A BEAUTY!



NO, MR. AMMEN HAD NO TROUBLE FINDING A BUYER... A YOUNG COUPLE CAME IN THAT AFTERNOON AND MADE THE PURCHASE! HE ARGUED THAT IT WAS A SOUND INVESTMENT AS WELL AS BEAUTIFUL JEWELRY! AND HE WOULD HAVE BEEN RIGHT -- IF ARTHUR FRENCH HADN'T WORKED...

THE OLD SWITCHEROO

OH, EDGAR, IT'S BEAUTIFUL!

IT'S A LOT OF MONEY... BUT I PROMISED YOU I'D BUY THE BEST DIAMOND WE COULD FIND ON OUR ANNIVERSARY!



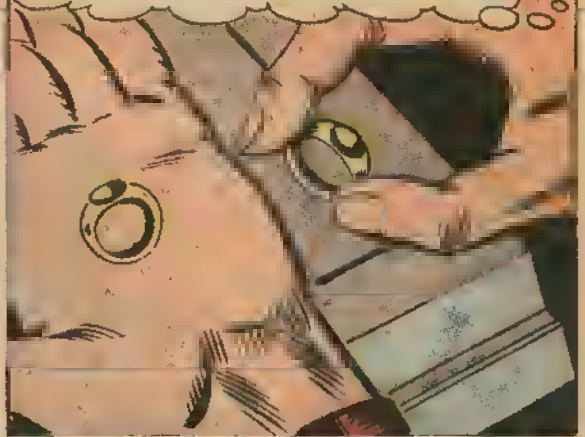
RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

THE MAN WHO CUT AND POLISHED THE ORIGINAL DIAMOND, THEN SET IT IN THE GOLD BAND, WAS AN EXPERT JEWELER... EMPLOYED BY A RELIABLE CONCERN IN NEW YORK...



I, FRANZ GERST, HAVE CREATED BEAUTIFUL JEWELS... BUT THIS EMERALD RING IS MY MASTERPIECE!

BOTH ARE EXQUISITE! BUT ONE GOES TO A JEWELER IN DETROIT VIA REGULAR COMMERCIAL SHIPPING... THE OTHER WILL ARRIVE WITH ARTHUR FRENCH-- TO BE SUBSTITUTED AT THE PROPER TIME!



FRANZ GERST, A CREATIVE JEWELER, MADE FINE JEWELRY... AND HE CREATED CLEVER DUPLICATES IN BASER MATERIALS TO CHANGE AT A LATER DATE! AND GERST WAS CAREFUL TO DIVERT SUSPICION FROM HIMSELF...



YOU MAKE A WONDERFUL SALARY, FRANZ! WHY DON'T YOU SPLURGE... BUY NEW CLOTHES?

NO! I AM POOR! I SAVE MY MONEY!

THE FOOLS! I AM WORTH A GREAT DEAL NOW-- ALL HIDDEN IN THE SAFE DEPOSIT BOXES! IF THEY INVESTIGATE ME, THEY'LL FIND LITTLE!



MEANWHILE, A THOUSAND MILES AWAY, A HAPPY WIFE HEARS SHOCKING NEWS! A NEIGHBOR WAS EXAMINING HER RING...



I'M SORRY, LINDA... THIS IS NOT A SEVEN THOUSAND DOLLAR RING! THIS IS A VERY FINELY CUT IMITATION!

WHAT! IT CAN'T BE! EDGAR! EDGAR, COME HERE!

EDGAR, THE DIAMOND ISN'T REAL! WE'VE BEEN ROBBED! EDGAR, THE RING IS A FAKE!



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

EDGAR HANSEN AND HIS WIFE WENT TO THE POLICE... HE WAS REFERRED TO THE RACKET SQUAD CHIEF, TOM CATON.

I PAID SEVEN THOUSAND FOR THAT RING! IT'S GLASS! WE'VE BEEN SWINDLED!

IT LOOKS FINE TO ME BUT I'LL TAKE YOUR WORD FOR IT! FUNNY-- JOE AMMEN HAS A FINE REPUTATION! LET'S GO SEE HIM!

I'VE HAD REPORTS ON TWO SIMILAR SWINDLES... IN BOTH CASES THE JEWELER WAS INNOCENT! THIS LOOKS LIKE THE SAME M.O.!

THE RING IS GENUINE! I BOUGHT IT FROM DEMET AND SONS IN NEW YORK! THEY HANDLE ONLY FLAWLESS JEWELRY! NEVER IMITATION STONES!

STOP SPUTTERING, JOE... TAKE A GOOD LOOK AT THIS RING!

I'M SORRY--MY EYES ARE WEAK! MY SON TAKES CARE OF THESE THINGS! TEDDY, COME OUT HERE!

AMMEN'S SON TOOK ONE LOOK... AND HIS FATHER KNEW THE TRUTH!

THIS IS TERRIBLE! I'LL RETURN THIS MAN'S MONEY, OF COURSE! BUT MY SON SAYS THIS IS NOT THE SAME RING HE RECEIVED FROM NEW YORK!

IT ISN'T--IT WAS SWITCHED HERE IN THE STORE BEFORE MR. HANSEN BOUGHT IT! INCIDENTALLY, I CHECKED ON HANSEN, JOE! HE'S HONEST!

THAT RING WAS AN ORIGINAL! NO ONE HERE DUPLICATED IT! ONLY IN NEW YORK, WHERE IT WAS CREATED, COULD THIS DUPLICATE BE MADE!

I FIGURED THAT ALREADY, JOE! I'M GOING TO NEW YORK!

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

ARTHUR FRENCH WAS ALREADY IN NEW YORK! HE AND FRANZ GERST WERE SPLITTING THEIR CONSIDERABLE PROFITS...

YOU TOOK FIVE JEWELS WITH A TOTAL VALUE OF \$51,000! EVEN RESELLING THEM TO A EUROPEAN FENCE NETTED US \$9000 APIECE!

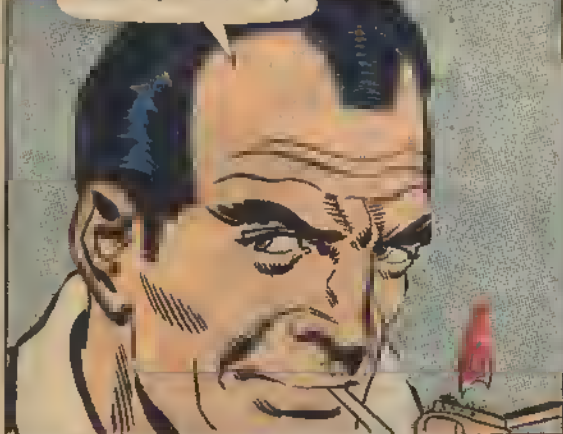


THIS NEXT TRIP SHOULD BE EVEN BETTER! HOW MANY HAVE YOU GOT READY?

ELEVEN--BUT TOGETHER THEY ARE WORTH \$200,000! WE SHOULD NET \$40,000 APIECE THIS TIME AND THEN...



I QUIT! I'LL RETURN TO MY OWN COUNTRY AND LIVE LIKE A GENTLEMAN! I HAVE EVERY NICKEL PUT AWAY IN SAFE-DEPOSIT BOXES!



MEANWHILE, RACKET SQUAD DETECTIVE TOM CATON WAS DISCUSSING JEWELS WITH ANOTHER DETECTIVE FROM A NEIGHBORING CITY IN THE MIDWEST...

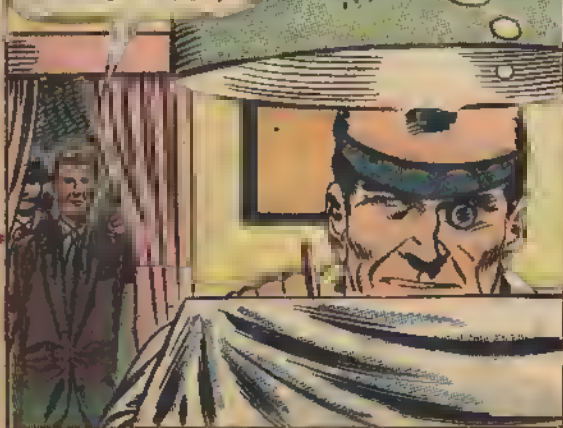
SO IT BOILS DOWN TO ARTHUR FRENCH WITH YOU, TOO! HE'S THE ONLY ONE IN THE FILES WHO FITS THE PICTURE!

YEAH, AND I SAW HIM IN MY TOWN TWO DAYS BEFORE THE THEFT WAS REPORTED. LET'S GO TALK TO THE JEWELER AT DEMET AND SONS... HIS NAME IS GERST!



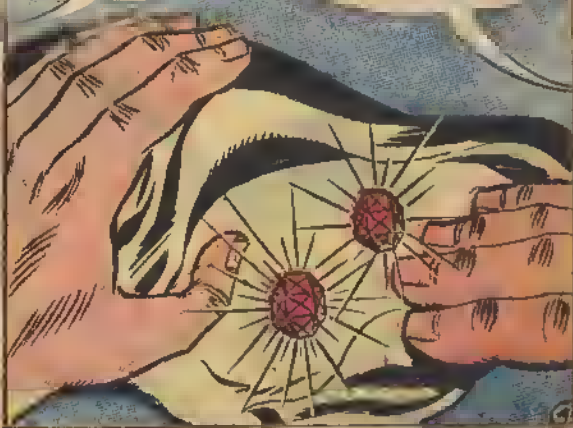
LATER... THERE'S FRANZ GERST, SERGEANT! PLEASE DON'T INTERFERE WITH HIS WORK! HE'S FINISHING A FINE JOB FOR US!

POLICE! I'M TOO CLEVER TO BE CAUGHT BY THEM!



I AM FRANZ GERST, SERGEANT! LET ME WRAP THESE UP AND PUT THEM AWAY!

HOLD IT, GERST! IF THESE ARE RUBIES -- IT'S STRANGE TO SEE TWO EXACTLY ALIKE -- ESPECIALLY THIS BIG!



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

IT WAS A STUPID BLUNDER... BUT GERST HAD AN EXPLANATION READY!

WHEN A JOB IS IMPORTANT, SOMETIMES I PREPARE A DUMMY TO EXAMINE BEFORE I WORK WITH THE REAL GEM!

IT IS SOMETIMES DONE THAT WAY, SERGEANT!

YEAH--AND THE FAKE WINDS UP ON SOMEONE'S HAND--SOMEONE WHO PAID FOR THE REAL THING!

WE'RE PICKING UP ARTHUR FRENCH, GERST! HE'S GOING TO TALK... YOU KNOW THAT! YOU'RE UNDER ARREST!

DON'T BE A FOOL!

I HAVE OTHER PAPERS--ANOTHER IDENTITY ALREADY PREPARED! TO ESCAPE WILL BE SIMPLE! STAND BACK-- I WILL SHOOT!

GERST MEANT IT! WHEN TOM CATON LEAPED, GERST PULLED THE TRIGGER!

LOOK OUT! --HE'LL SHOOT!

THE SAFETY'S STILL ON, GERST! --BUT YOU TRIED!

I'LL TRACE EVERY JEWEL THAT GERST EVER WORKED ON, SERGEANT! THOSE THAT WERE STOLEN WILL BE REPLACED!

WE WON'T HAVE MUCH TROUBLE, MR. DEMET! GERST AND FRENCH WILL TALK PLENTY, NOW!

THE CLEVER PAIR HAD BEEN LUCKY TO LAST AS LONG AS THEY DID! TODAY SUCH A CRIME IS IMPOSSIBLE... THE JEWELERS' ASSOCIATION TAKE EVERY CARE TO MAKE SURE SUCH CRIMES DO NOT RECUR!

WE WANT TO THANK YOU, SERGEANT! WE KNOW THE DIAMOND IS REAL THIS TIME!

JUST KEEP ON BEING CAREFUL! JEWEL THIEVES ALWAYS HAVE A NEW ANGLE!

The END

"HALF A HEEL"

"If my wife hadn't visited Mrs. Helen Mitchell," said Detective Al Norton to his buddy, Detective Ben Eagan, "Everything would have been fine. My savings account would not have taken such a terrible blow. But you know how women are. The moment they see something new in another home they want it. Believe me, there is no peace on earth possible unless a husband agrees to give his wife that new coat, that new hat, or that new table. So the phone rings and she gets a call from this Mrs. Mitchell, asking her to come over, because she has something to show her.

The wife tells me there are cold cuts in the refrigerator. She may be home late. But she comes back in an hour. I see that look on her face which tells me she wants me to come right over with her to the Mitchell's. I never met Mr. Mitchell and only saw Mrs. Mitchell two or three times. I figured I was going to stay at home and study the new section of the police manual. But what chance have I got against my determined wife.

So we went to the Mitchell's. I met Mr. Mitchell for the first time. He had that proud look on his face. What do you think he bought his wife? One of those new combinations where you have an automatic washing machine on one side and a dryer on the other. So I had to remain and watch dirty clothes get a good washing, then put into the dryer.

The wife tells me we must get that combination. Wonderful for rainy days when she can't hang clothing outdoors. As a matter of fact it means the end of hanging up any clothing to dry. You know my wife when she makes up her mind to get something. So that's why the savings account has hit a new low. But it really is a wonderful idea. Probably the next idea will be to invent clothing you don't have to clean at all."

The phone rang and Detective Ben Eagan answered it. No need to continue on the topic of washing and drying machines.

"Chief Edward Mirkus wants us in his office at once. Says he has a surprise. An old friend of ours is there and needs some help from the

department. Come on! We can't keep the chief waiting."

The police chief was proud of the two members of his Special Squad. They could handle anything from the ordinary routine matters to the toughest assignment. The door to his office was opened and they walked in. A man dressed in the uniform of a police captain was seated on a chair near the Chief's desk. A big smile appeared on the face of Detective Al Norton.

"Otto Mayer in the flesh," he exclaimed. "What do you call this? When you left the department we understood you were taking a job as head of the private police force of a defense plant."

"I did for six months," replied Otto Mayer. "Then came the invitation from Brownsville. You know that little suburb just twenty miles east of here. A chance arose to be police captain of the force. We only have sixteen men altogether and I am the big wheel. But I need some help from you two fellows. Your powers by special law extend throughout the state. So you can give a fellow an assist. The Chief said it was O.K."

"Go spill your tale of woe," suggested Detective Ben Eagan.

"We are all ears. And don't leave out any details."

"The story begins shortly before midnight Saturday when Louis Keppner, assistant manager of the Big Deal Appliance Store on our Main Street, locked up and put the day's receipts into a little black bag. He drove a few blocks to the Brownsville National Bank to drop the cash into the bank's night depository.

He jumped out of the car, leaving the key in the ignition, and was just about to shove the bag with \$7,000 into the slot when a voice from above said quietly:

"Drop the bag and keep walking."

Keppner looked up and saw a masked man on the roof of the bank's marquee. He held a gun pointed at Keppner. The Big Deal Appliance man promptly dropped the bag and started walking. He heard the gunman drop in the sidewalk and then take off in his car with the loot. When Keppner recovered his presence of

mind, he ran to a phone and called us at police headquarters.

Some minutes later Patrolman Joseph Deen did a doubletake when he saw a masked driver go by him on the Winston Turnpike. As he debated whether his eyes were playing tricks on him, the radio in his police car barked out an alarm for a masked bandit in a stolen car.

Patrolman Joseph Deen took off after the suspect, pulled alongside of him and ordered him to halt. Instead, the driver, still wearing the mask, pushed his car up to 90 miles an hour with the patrolman following him. Deen fired two shots at the fleeing car which wound through the streets at breakneck speed. At Donalds Avenue and West Brighton Road, the car crashed into a fence. The masked gunman jumped out, fired a couple of shots at the officer and then legged it onto a backyard. As the chase proceeded through a score of yards and over fences, the officer and the pursued exchanged several shots, none taking effect.

By this time the area was full of my men. But the last they saw of their quarry was when he was dashing through the woods near the State Park. But it all was just a workout for this crook. He forgot to take the loot with him, leaving it in the wrecked car."

The two detectives looked at each other. Ben Eagan spoke first what was on his mind.

"Every indication of a mixed up fellow trying his first job to get some money. Must live either in your town or in the vicinity. He seems to know every inch of the ground. I would say he was also absent minded."

"When he ran through the woods, did he leave any foot imprints?" asked Al Norton.

"You hit it on the head," replied Captain Otto Mayer as he took his briefcase and opened it. "Here's a moulage of the right shoe. We tried to figure out the heel imprint but could not. Maybe they can do a better job at the Crime Lab."

The three went up to see Dave Becker who was in charge of the Crime Lab. He looked at the moulage and then at his wrist watch.

"You three go out and get something to eat. It's almost lunch time. Take an hour and don't rush. When you come back I should have a detailed report for you."

The three returned and Dave Becker handed Captain Otto Mayer a written report.

"The heel is made by the Blackstone Rubber Company. It is their cheapest one and the trademark is Weatlong. This fellow tends to walk with his toes pointed in. The heel is worn

down completely on one side. He is due for a reheel job — size number 10. There is gravel dust underneath the heel indicating he probably has a gravel path leading to his gatage. Anything else you want to know?"

"You did a swell job," thanked the police captain. "Now we can go to work."

Detectives Al Norton and Ben Eagan drove out in their unmarked car. They followed Captain Otto Mayer. When they reached the town they broke up, each going to a different shoe repair shop. They met two hours later. Detective Al Norton had a wide grin on his face.

"Our suspect was in early this morning to have new heels put on his shoes. At the Empire Shoe Repairing Shop. The man gave me the old heels. It was a wait job. The old heels go into a rubbish can to be emptied at the end of the day. He knows this fellow. He is a handyman at a doctor's house. We go to 247 Howard Drive where Dr. Townsend lives."

The two detectives went in to see the doctor. He then sent for his handyman. Detective Al Norton spotted two things at once. The shoes had new heels and the man walked with his toes pointed in. He showed his badge and there was a definite look of surprise on the handyman. He was thinking of what to say when Detective Al Norton showed him the moulage and a heel.

"We can prove this was the heel taken from your shoe. Then we can prove it matches the one taken from a moulage of your imprint. It was your first job. So you come with us and write a complete story of why you did it."

The handyman, Louis Sackett, went peacefully to the police headquarters where he wrote out a confession. He had fallen in love with a waitress and wanted the money to buy a car and make a big splash.

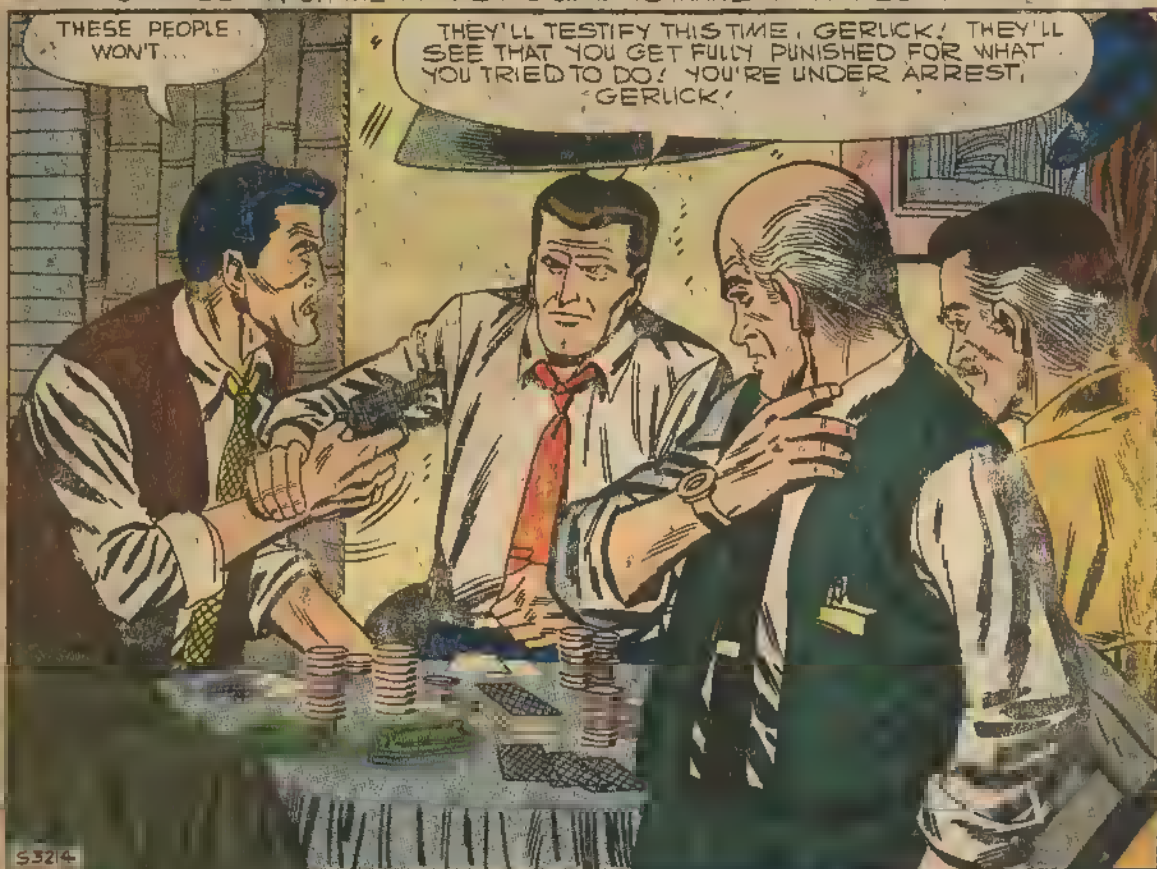
"I didn't get the money so I guess you fellows will let me go after giving me a good scolding."

"Hub?" said Detective Al Norton. "I got some news for you. Since you had the money in your possession it was an actual robbery not an attempted one. That will give you a 10-15 year sentence. You used a gun so add on another three years. You have no permit for the gun. That's one year. You stole a car and that's three years. You shot at an officer and hence you must add another five years. Sure, we will let you go — right up for trial and a nice long stretch. Do you think we are absent-minded?"

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

The FRIENDLY GAME

DR. GERLUCK'S MANNERS WERE IMPECCABLE! HE KNEW ONLY THE BEST -- AND WEALTHIEST -- PEOPLE! HE'D PILED UP AN IMPRESSIVE LIST OF ARRESTS IN A LIFE OF CRIME ... AND SPENT A LOT OF TIME IN PRISON! HIS VICTIMS DIDN'T LIKE TO PRESS CHARGES ... AND IT WAS THIS LAST DETAIL THAT ENABLED SGT. JOHN PEDLAR OF THE RACKET SQUAD TO MAKE HIS ARREST!



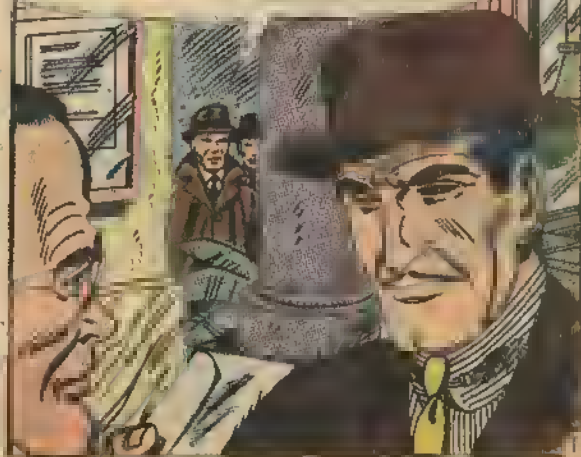
DR. JOHANN GERLUCK -- OMITTING HIS ALIASES -- WAS IN TOWN! INSPECTOR DESICO OF THE RACKET SQUAD WAS ON HAND AT HIS HOTEL WITH SGT. PEDLAR...

THERE HE IS, JOHN! THE CLEVEREST CONFIDENCE MAN IN THE BUSINESS!

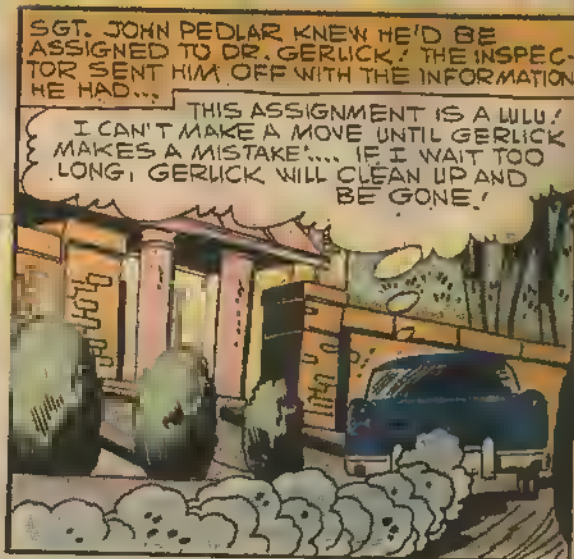
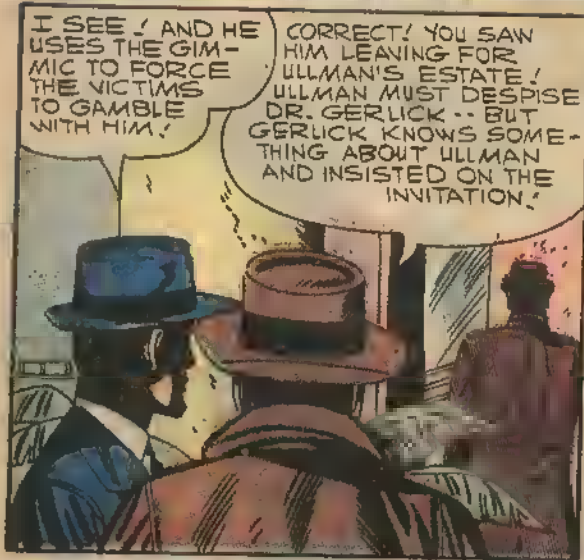
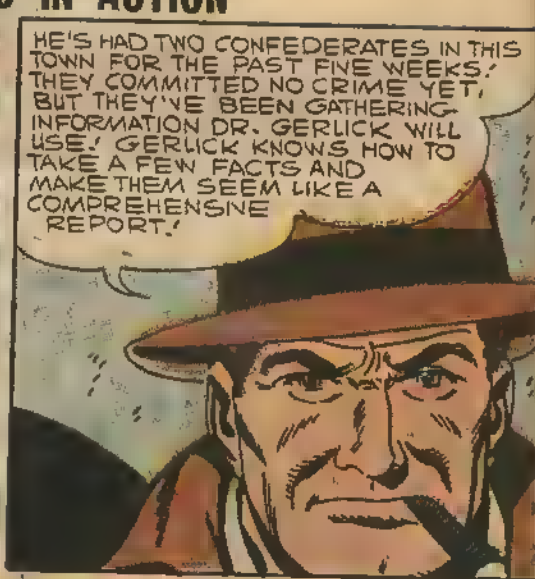
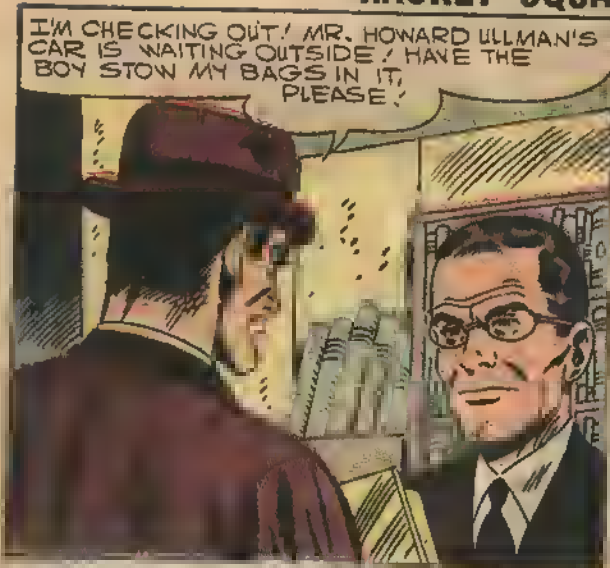
CON MAN? I THOUGHT HE SPECIALIZED IN CROOKED GAMBLING!



HIS RICH VICTIMS AREN'T FOOLS, SERGEANT! THEY KNOW ABOUT HIM! IT'S HOW HE GETS THEM TO PLAY THAT'S INTERESTING!



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

THE SERGEANT HAS THE APPEARANCE OF A GENTLEMAN. POLICE ARE NOT...

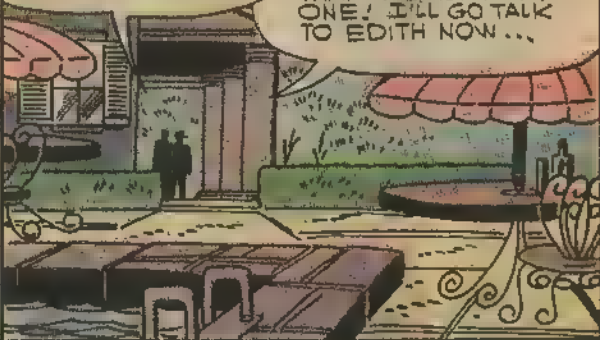
POLICE USUALLY WORK TOO HARD TO WORRY ABOUT APPEARANCES. GERLICK! WE'RE TOO BUSY TRACKING DOWN DESPICABLE THIEVES. YOU, DOCTOR, ARE DESPICABLE!



THE SERGEANT KNEW DR. GERLICK WAS AWARE OF HIS REASON FOR BEING THERE. AND HE KNEW GERLICK WAS THE TYPE WHO'D GO AHEAD WITH HIS PLANS ANYHOW...

JOHN, PLEASE DON'T ACT LIKE A POLICE-MAN. I CAN'T EXPLAIN BUT...

I'VE GOT A JOB TO DO, HOWARD. BUT I'LL TRY NOT TO MAKE ANY MISTAKES THAT WILL HURT ANYONE. I'LL GO TALK TO EDITH NOW...



HI, EDITH! SOMEONE STEAL YOUR DOLL?

PLEASE DON'T JOKE, JOHNNY. I'VE GOT TROUBLES!



OAO'S HAD TROUBLE WITH SOME STOCKHOLDERS. HE THINKS THEY HIRED SOMEONE TO RIFLE HIS SAFE AND STEAL CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS.

WHY DIDN'T HE REPORT IT, EDITH?



BECAUSE OAO SAYS THE STOCKHOLDERS WHO ARE BUCKING HIM COULD MAKE SOME OF HIS ACTIONS SEEM ILLEGAL, EVEN THOUGH THEY AREN'T. PUBLICITY COULD RUIN THE COMPANY RIGHT NOW.

I GUESS I UNDERSTAND, EDITH.



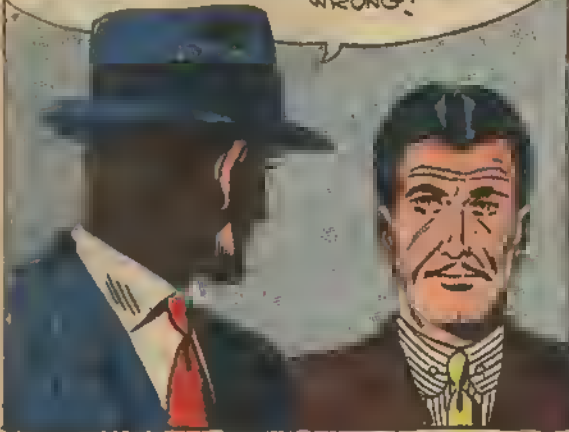
SO HOWARD'S GOING TO PAY OFF! THAT IS ILLEGAL!

SERGEANT, YOU'RE EMBARRASSING THE YOUNG LADY! FURTHERMORE, I THINK YOU SHOULD LEAVE UNTIL THERE IS EVIDENCE OF CRIME!



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

GERLUCK, YOU'VE GOT A POLICE RECORD! YOU SPENT A LOT OF TIME IN PRISON AND NOW YOU FIGURE YOU'VE COME UP WITH A POLICE -PROOF RACKET! I'M BETTING MY BADGE YOU'RE WRONG!



PLEASE, SERGEANT, I'M NOT DOING ANY HARM!



SGT. PEDLAR AND INSPECTOR DESICO HAD SOMETHING TO WORK ON. THEY BEGAN CHECKING GERLUCK'S ACCOMPLICES.

HE CALLED GERLUCK, NOW HE'S GOING SOMEWHERE IN A HURRY! THE INSPECTOR TOLD ME TO USE MY OWN JUDGEMENT, SO...

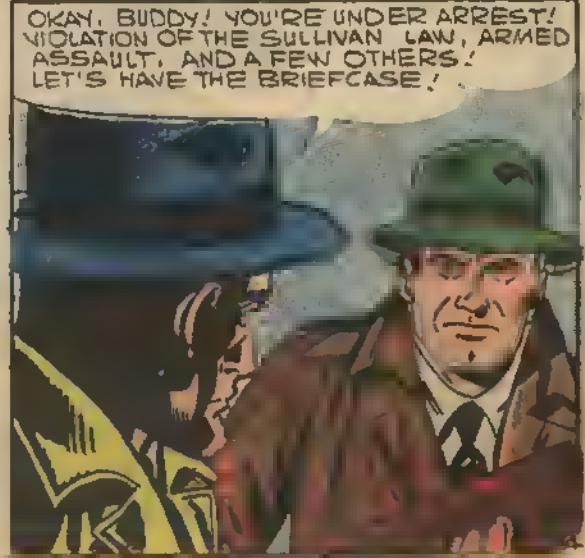


HOLD IT, SPRINGER! I WANT TO TALK TO YOU!

BACK OFF, BUDDY! I'M BUSY!



OKAY, BUDDY! YOU'RE UNDER ARREST! VIOLATION OF THE SULLIVAN LAW, ARMED ASSAULT, AND A FEW OTHERS! LET'S HAVE THE BRIEFCASE!



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

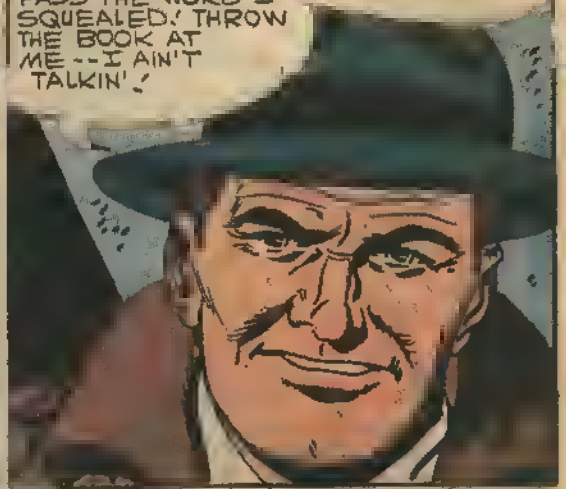
SGT. PEDLAR HAD THE MAN CALLED SPRINGER BOOKED... HE HAD A SURE CONVICTION BUT HE WANTED HIM TO TALK...

COME ON, SPRINGER, COOPERATE AND THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY WILL MAKE IT EASIER FOR YOU! YOU WERE BRINGING THIS BRIEFCASE TO GERLUCK, WEREN'T YOU?

I DON'T KNOW GERLUCK, I TOLD YUH!

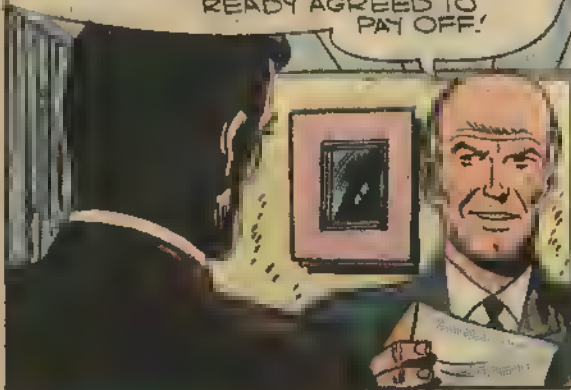


I DID TIME BEFORE -- IT AIN'T SO BAD, NOT AS BAD AS HAVIN' GERLUCK PASS THE WORD I SQUEALED! THROW THE BOOK AT ME -- I AIN'T TALKIN'!



SGT. PEDLAR HAD THE INFORMATION GERLUCK'S MEN HAD WORKED HARD STEALING AND DIGGING FOR, BUT HIS VICTIMS DIDN'T KNOW THAT...

I CAN'T FORCE THOSE MEN TO GAMBLE WITH YOU, GERLUCK! DO YOUR OWN DIRTY WORK! I'VE ALREADY AGREED TO PAY OFF!



I'M NOT A FOOL, ULLMAN! I COULD BE CONVICTED OF BLACKMAIL ACCEPTING PAYMENT DIRECTLY, HOWEVER -- IN A FRIENDLY POKER GAME, NOTHING COULD BE PROVEN. HERE ARE THE NAMES, ULLMAN! GET THEM HERE TONIGHT!



JOHNNY? WHY DIDN'T YOU CALL TO SAY YOU WERE COMING! I'VE GOT TO GO OUT AND DAD IS BUSY WITH DR. GERLUCK!

YOU MUST STAY HERE WITH ME TONIGHT, EDITH! CALL WHO-EVER YOU HAVE AN APPOINTMENT WITH! IT'S IMPORTANT!



I'M SORRY, DOT, BUT JOHNNY'S HERE! PERHAPS HE'LL FORGET HE'S A COP AND ACT ROMANTIC!



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

LET'S GO TO THE LIVING ROOM, JOHNNY! WE CAN PLAY MY NEW RECORDS!

NO, EDIE, I'LL TAKE A RAINCHECK. I WANT TO STAY HERE..



...AND WATCH GERLICK'S VICTIMS ARRIVE! THERE'S GOING TO BE A POKER GAME, EDIE! GERLICK KNOWS HE'S GOING TO WIN! EACH OF THE PLAYERS HAS BEEN NOTIFIED IN ADVANCE HOW MUCH HE'S TO LOSE!



SIT, WHITTAKER! THIS COMPLETES OUR LITTLE CIRCLE! SHALL WE BEGIN?



WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? THIS IS A PRIVATE GAME!

I'M A GUEST IN MISTER ULLMAN'S HOME -- IT'LL LOOK ODD IF I'M NOT PERMITTED TO PLAY, GERLICK!



THE DEAL PASSED FROM PLAYER TO PLAYER! BUT, NO MATTER WHO DEALT, GERLICK WON IF THE PLAY WAS BETWEEN GERLICK AND ONE OF HIS VICTIMS! SGT. PEDLAR ALONE WON SOME POTS...

I'VE GOT A PAIR OF QUEENS! THEY HOLD IT, GERLICK! WIN, I BELIEVE?



THREE ACES BEAT TWO QUEENS, GERLICK! MR. ULLMAN WINS!

KEEP YOUR NOSE OUT OF IT, PEDLAR! ULLMAN -- YOU OTHER CHUMPS -- TELL HIM TO GET OUT!



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

PERHAPS I SHOULD'VE TOLD YOU EARLIER, HOWARD! YOU AND THE OTHERS HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR FROM GERLUCK! THE MAN WHO STOLE YOUR DOCUMENTS, THE SAME MAN WHO HAD THE INFORMATION ON ALL OF YOU, IS IN POLICE CUSTODY!



LOOK OUT, JOHNNY!

YOU RUINED EVERYTHING, YOU... YOU...



YOU'RE UNDER ARREST, GERLUCK! GENTLEMEN, I WANT ALL OF YOU TO TESTIFY AGAINST THIS MAN!

WE'LL DO IT, JOHNNY! IT MAY EMBARRASS SOME OF US, BUT WE'LL TESTIFY!

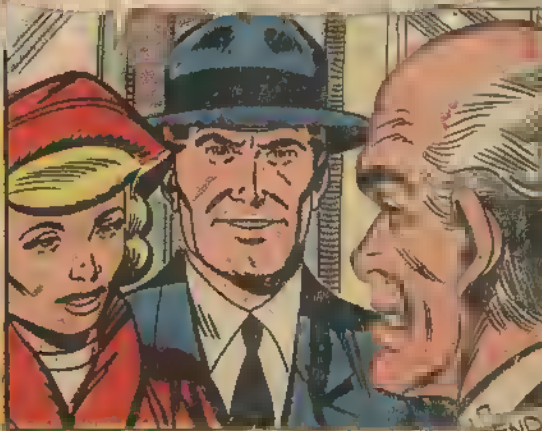


SGT. PEDLAR AND INSPECTOR DESICO HAD AN AIRTIGHT CASE AGAINST THE SWINDLER ULLMAN AND THE OTHERS TESTIFIED AND...

...SEVEN AND ONE HALF YEARS IN PRISON!



I ASKED HIM, DADDY, BUT HE SAID HE'D RATHER BE A RACKET SQUAD DETECTIVE THAN A VICE PRESIDENT IN YOUR FIRM! I'M GOING TO MARRY HIM ANYHOW!



END

Find the strength
for your life...



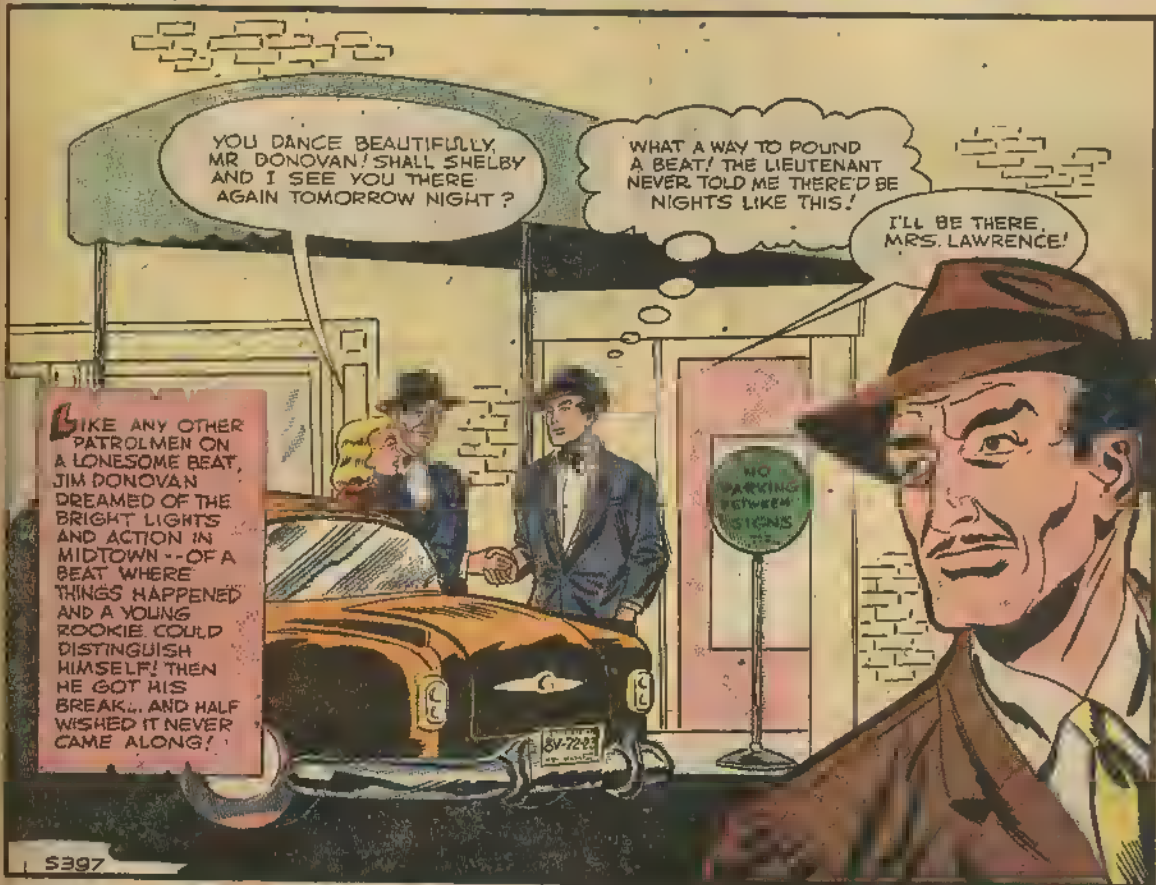
Religion In American Life Program

WORSHIP TOGETHER THIS WEEK

This advertisement is being run as a public service
by Charlton Comics Group.

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

CLAMOR BOY



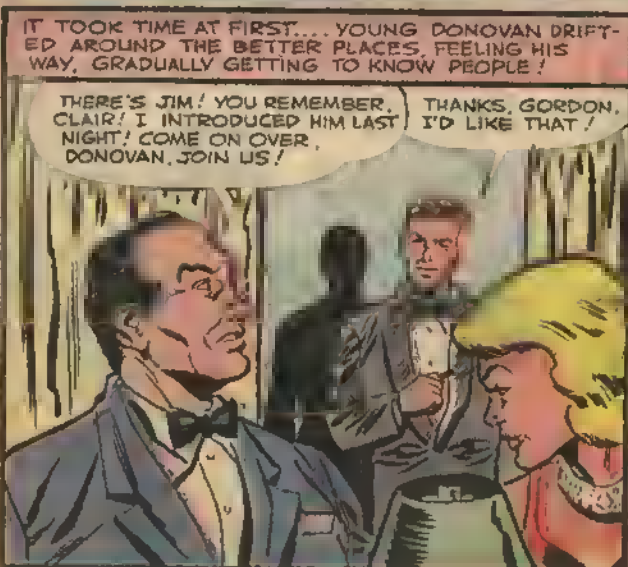
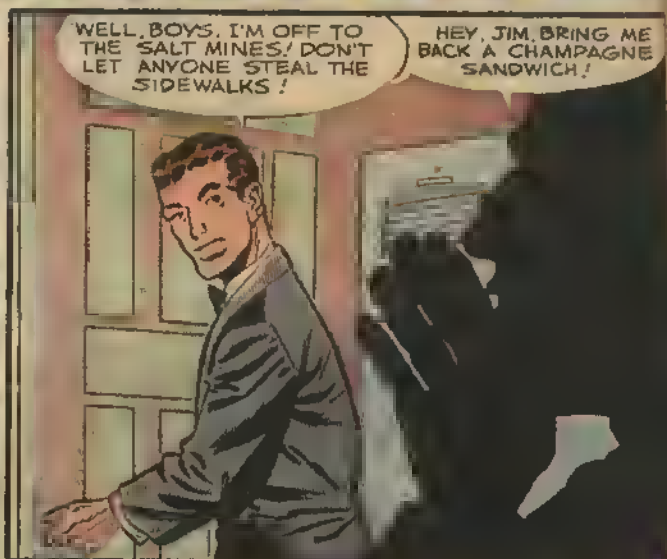
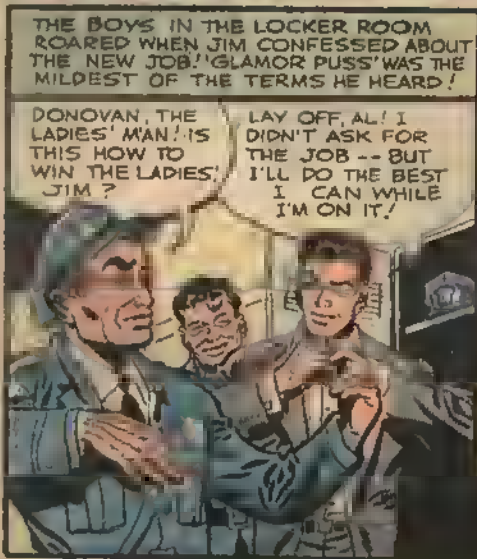
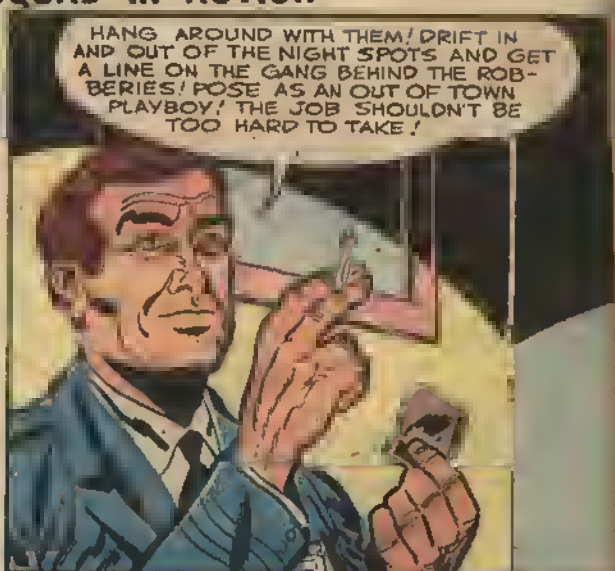
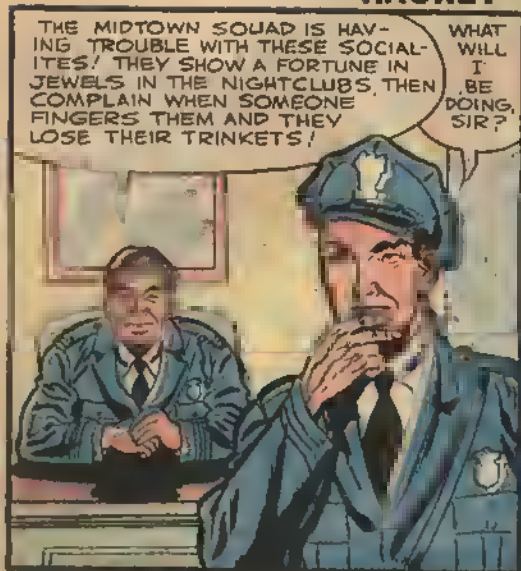
PATROLMAN JIM DONOVAN WAS JUST ANOTHER ROOKIE IN THE STICKS WHEN HE REPORTED FOR DUTY A MONTH EARLIER.

DONOVAN! COME IN HERE I MAY HAVE A JOB FOR YOU!

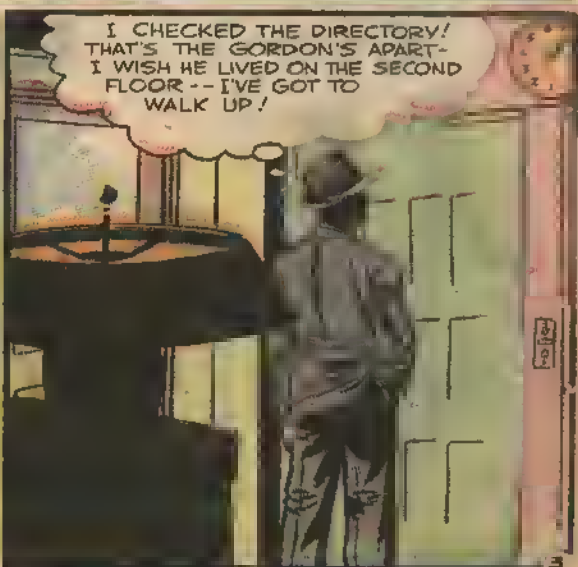
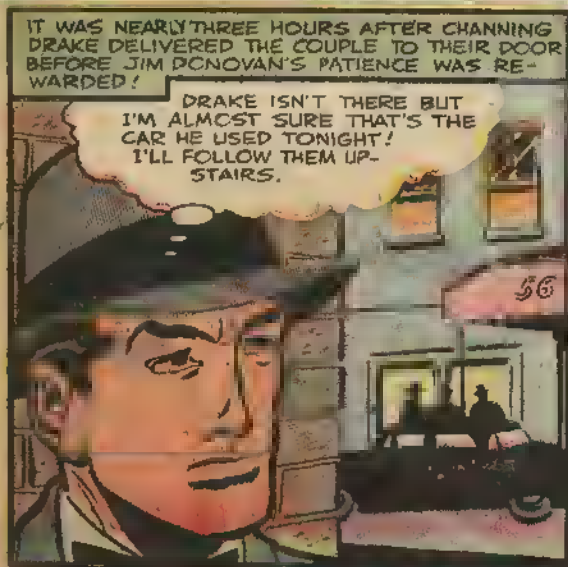
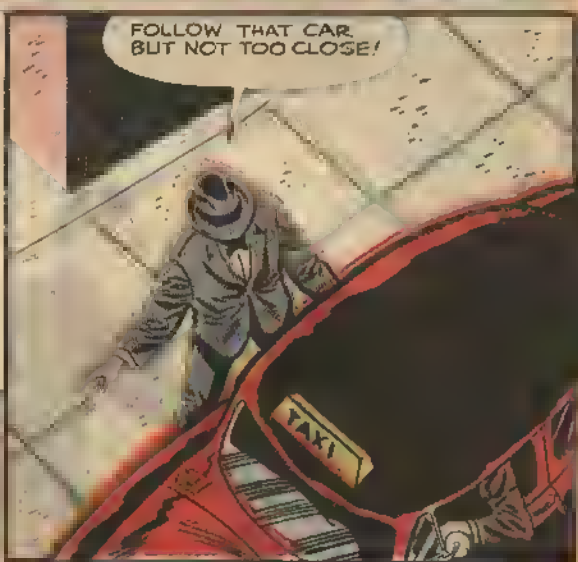
HOW'S YOUR DANCING, DONOVAN? DO YOU GET ALONG WITH THE LADIES? DON'T LAUGH -- THIS IS BUSINESS!

I... I GUESS I GET BY, SIR! WHY?

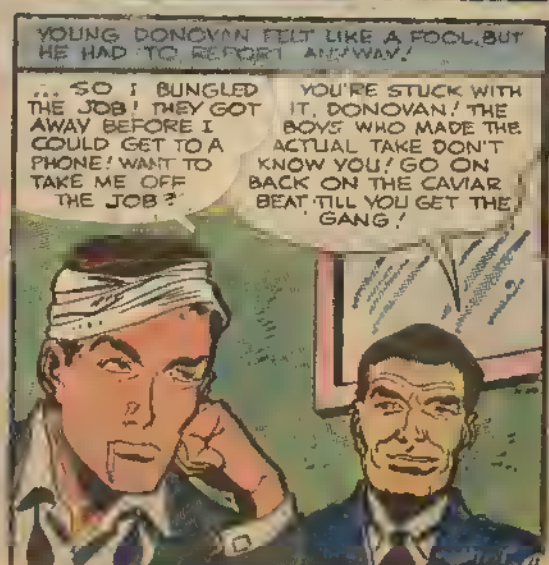
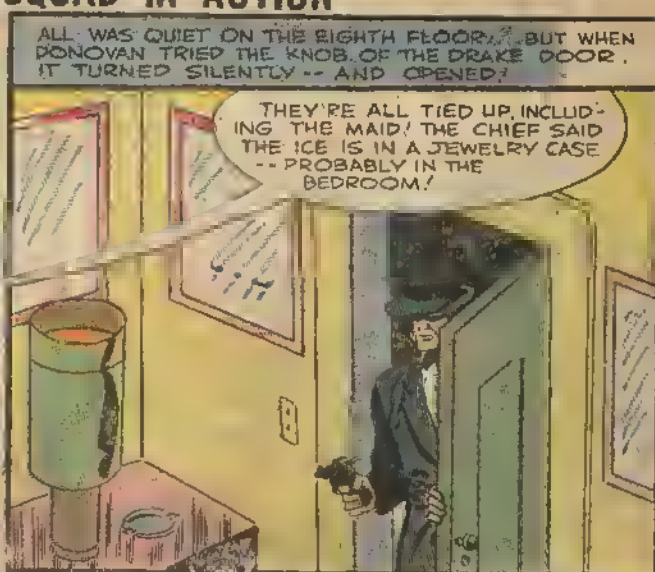
RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

MR. AND MRS. GORDON WERE SWORN TO SECRECY ABOUT JIM'S IDENTITY...AND THEY INTRODUCED DONOVAN AROUND TO HELP HIM IN ASSIGNMENT!

MRS. LACEY, THIS IS JIM DONOVAN, A FRIEND OF MINE!

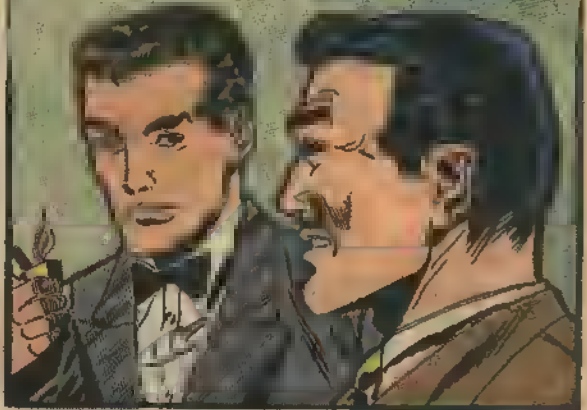
I'VE HEARD OF YOU MRS. LACEY-- AND YOUR FAMOUS JEWEL COLLECTION!

I DON'T WONDER-- I HAVE ENOUGH OF THE STUFF!



FOOLISH, ISN'T IT? TEMPTING FATE, WEARING ALL THAT JEWELRY!

YOU'RE TOO SUSPICIOUS, DONOVAN! NO ONE WOULD BOTHER MRS. LACEY!



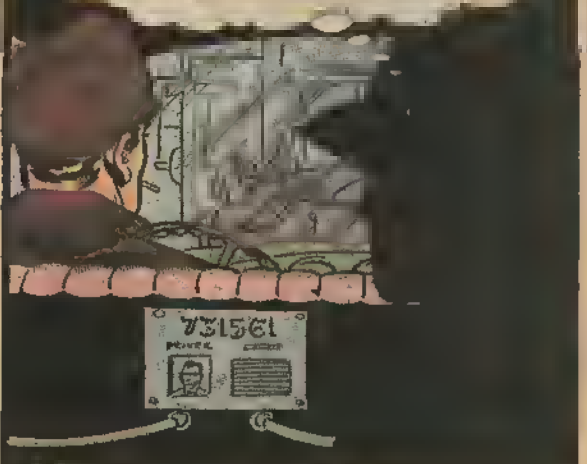
THE ROOKIE HAD ANOTHER HUNCH-- THIS TIME HE WAS DETERMINED TO DO THE JOB RIGHT!

GOOD NIGHT, MR. DONOVAN! GOOD NIGHT, MR. DRAKE!

SHE MUST HAVE MORE THAN A HUNDRED THOUSAND IN DIAMONDS ON HER RIGHT NOW! OH, WELL-- I'D BETTER GO HOME MYSELF!



THEY'RE MY BOYS! I HAVE A HUNCH DRAKE IS GOING ALONG ON THIS JOB HIMSELF! I HOPE HE DOES! I'LL BE RIGHT BEHIND HIM!



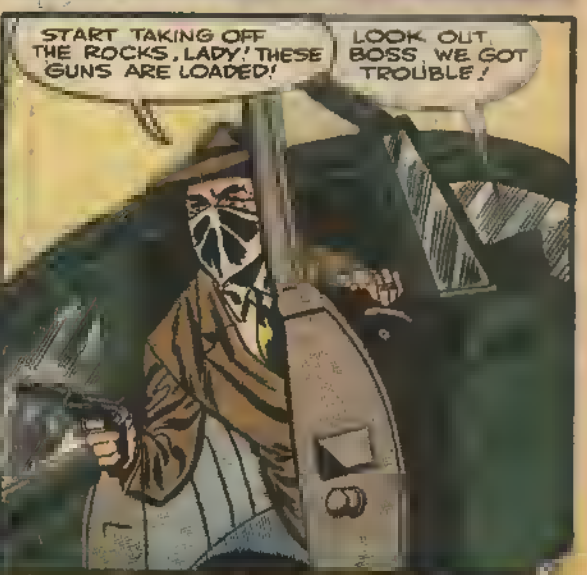
HEY GET OVER!

SHUT UP! PULL OVER AND GET THAT BOSS OF YOURS OUTSIDE!



START TAKING OFF THE ROCKS, LADY! THESE GUNS ARE LOADED!

LOOK OUT BOSS, WE GOT TROUBLE!



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION



DROP THE GUNS!
YOU CHUMPS WANT
A MURDER RAP
TOO?

HEY, DRAKE--IT'S
THE SAME GUY A
COP--UGH!!



SO YOU'RE THE
SNOOPER WHO TIP-
PED THE LAST JOB!
YOU WON'T GET IN
OUR HAIR
AGAIN!

TAKE IT
EASY, DRAKE!
YOU'RE HOOK-
ED AND YOU
KNOW IT!

YOUNG DONOVAN WAS BLUFFING AND HE KNEW IT! CHAN-
NING DRAKE'S GAME WAS UP... DONOVAN'S PARTNER
GRABBED DRAKE FROM BEHIND....



DROP IT, DRAKE!
GET HIS GUN,
DONOVAN!

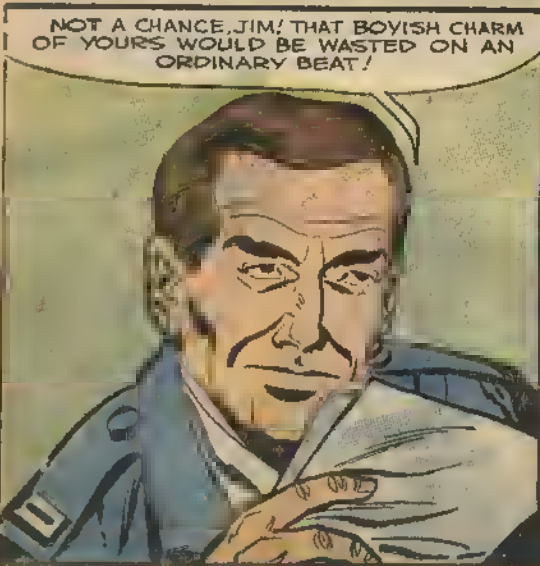
A PLEASURE!

LATER, AFTER DRAKE AND HIS MEN
WERE BOOKED AT THE PRECINCT....



YOU LOOK A
LITTLE SLOPPY,
JIM! THE GIRLS
IN THE BRIGHT
SPOTS WOULDN'T
KNOW YOU!

I GUESS NOT,
SIR! BY THE WAY--
HOW ABOUT GO-
ING BACK ON
MY BEAT?



NOT A CHANCE, JIM! THAT BOYISH CHARM
OF YOURS WOULD BE WASTED ON AN
ORDINARY BEAT!



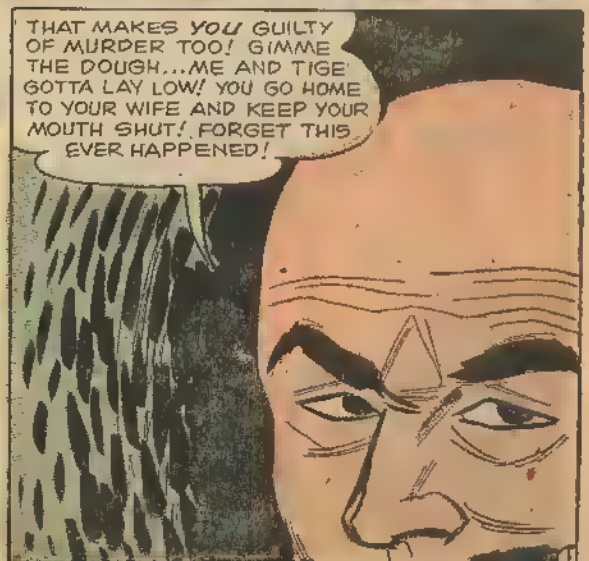
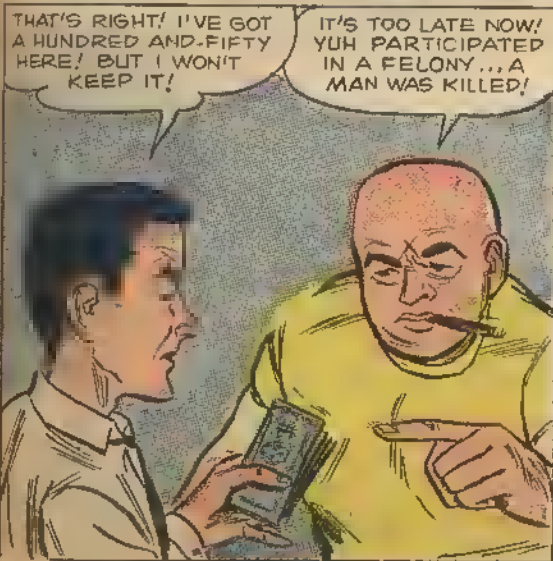
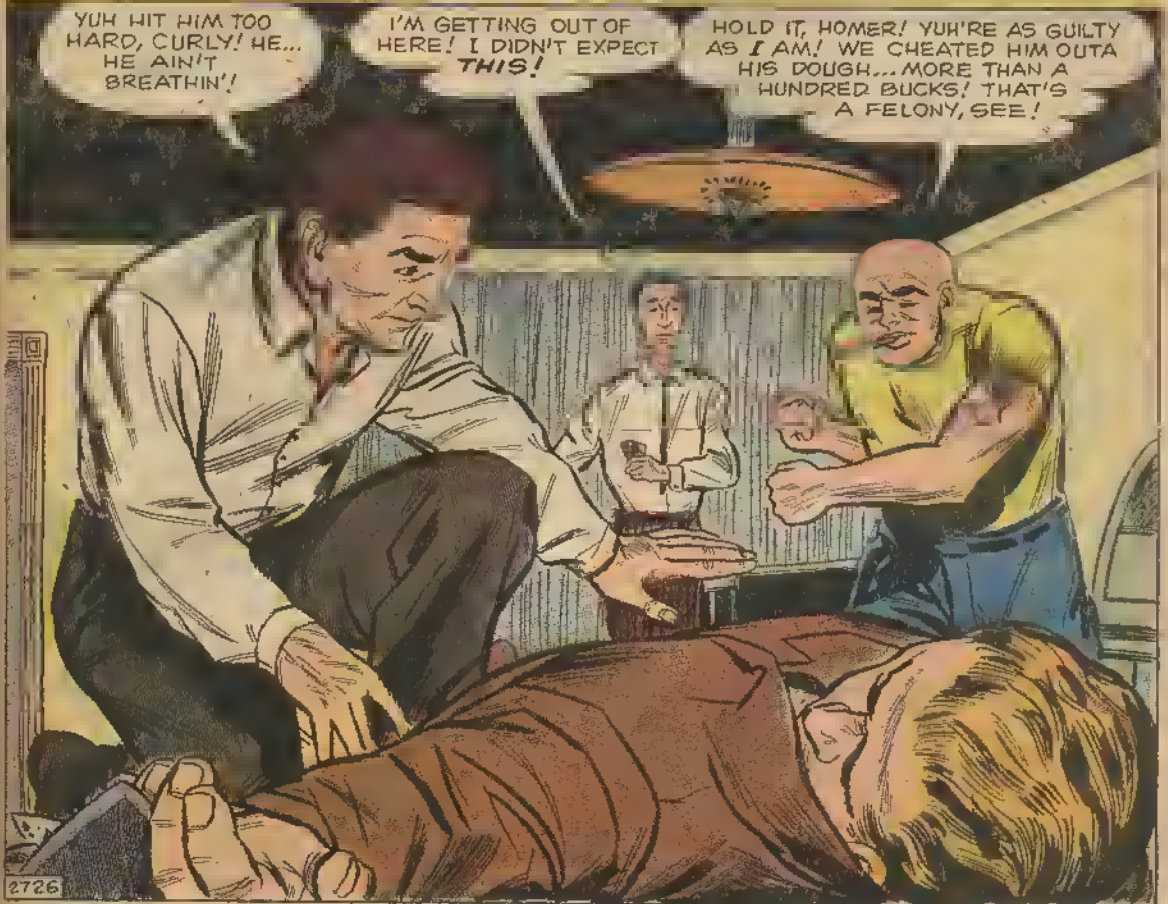
WHAT LUCK! I'LL PRO-
BABLY SPEND THE REST
OF MY LIFE GETTING
ULCERS WITH THE
CELEBRITIES!

SOMEONE HAS TO
DO THE JOB, JIM!
I POUND A BEAT--
YOU HAVE TO LISTEN
TO A LOT OF SMALL TALK!
IT'S ALL IN THE JOB!

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

A LITTLE GUILTY

THERE WAS NO WARNING...THE VICTIM IN THE CROOKED CARD GAME MADE A LUNGE FOR THE CARD SHARP! A BLOW WAS STRUCK, THEN ANOTHER...AND HOMER CRANE LOOKED DOWN AT THE MAN ON THE FLOOR! HOMER HADN'T STRUCK HIM...BUT HOMER WAS ONE OF THE TRIO WHO'D CHEATED HIM OF HIS CASH!



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

HOMER CRANE DIDN'T GO STRAIGHT HOME... HE WALKED THE STREETS FOR HOURS, TRYING TO GET COURAGE TO GO TO THE POLICE...

IT'S NOT FAIR! I DIDN'T CHEAT IN THAT GAME... THEY DID! I DIDN'T KNOW THERE WAS ANY CHEATING UNTIL CURLY ADMITTED IT! IF I TELL THE POLICE THAT, THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME!



I WON THE MONEY... THE GAME WAS CROOKED! THEY'D NEVER BELIEVE ME! I'D BETTER DO AS THEY SAY!

HOMER CRANE, FAIRLY WELL OFF, WAS MISERABLE FOR A MONTH! THEN, JUST AS HE THOUGHT IT WAS ALL BEHIND HIM, THE LETTER CAME...

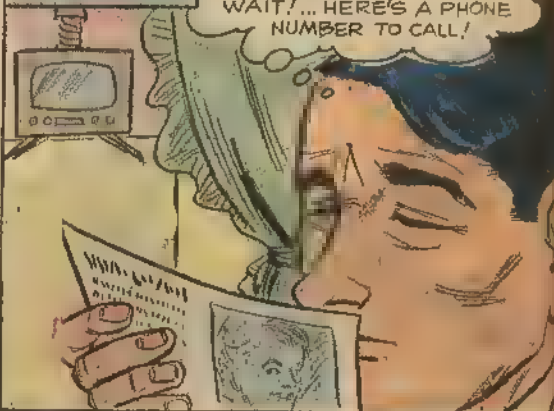


HELLO, DEAR! THIS LETTER IS FOR YOU!

LETTER? WHO CAN IT BE FROM?

IT WAS FROM HIS OLD PLAYMATE, CURLY... JUST A CLIPPING FROM AN OLD NEWS-PAPER!

"UNIDENTIFIED MAN FOUND IN RIVER, POLICE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO ASCERTAIN IDENTITY OF MIDDLE AGED MAN FOUND IN RIVER!" THE DESCRIPTION FITS THE MAN CURLY HIT! WAIT!... HERE'S A PHONE NUMBER TO CALL!



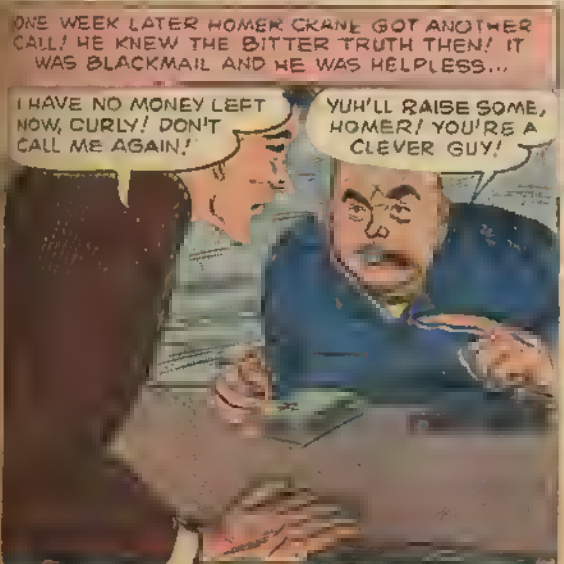
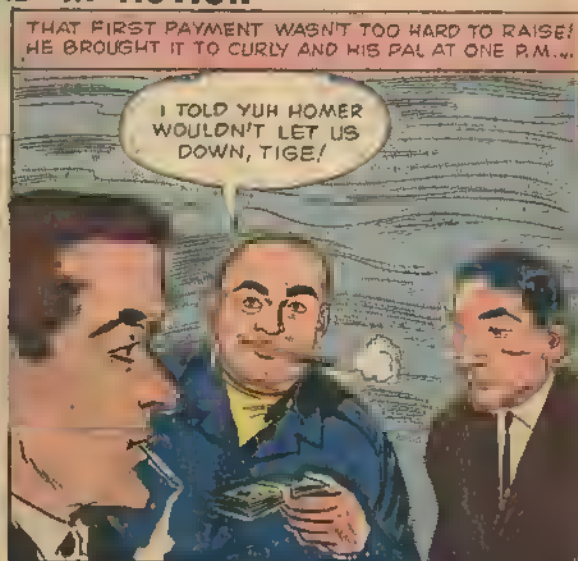
GO IN THE OTHER ROOM, DEAR... I'VE GOT AN IMPORTANT PHONE CALL TO MAKE!

CURLY WAS WAITING FOR THE CALL! HE KNEW IT WOULD COME...

HELLO, HOMER! BAD BUSINESS, EH? YEAH! WE'RE STAYIN' OUTA SIGHT! THAT'S THE TROUBLE! ME AND TIGE CAN'T WORK! WE NEED DOUGH! YEAH--MONEY!

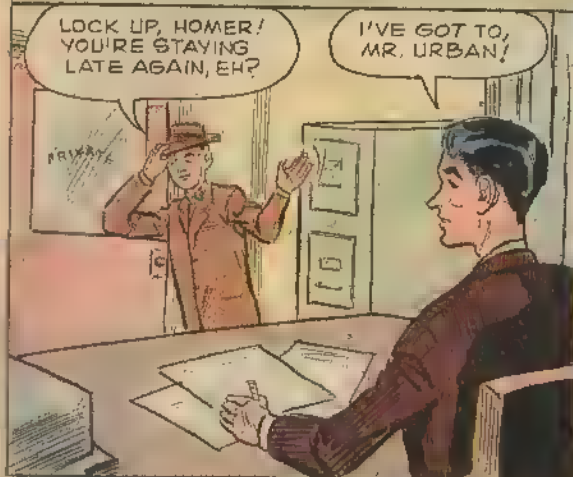


RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

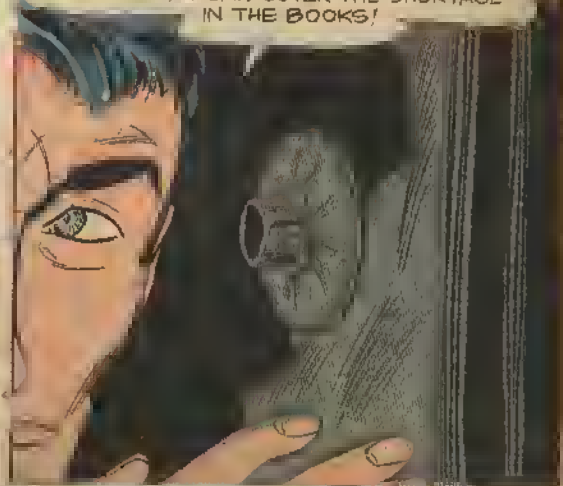
IT WENT ON AND ON! HOMER CRANE PAID OUT TWENTY-SIX THOUSAND DOLLARS BEFORE HE HIT A SNAG!



LOCK UP, HOMER! YOU'RE STAYING LATE AGAIN, EH?

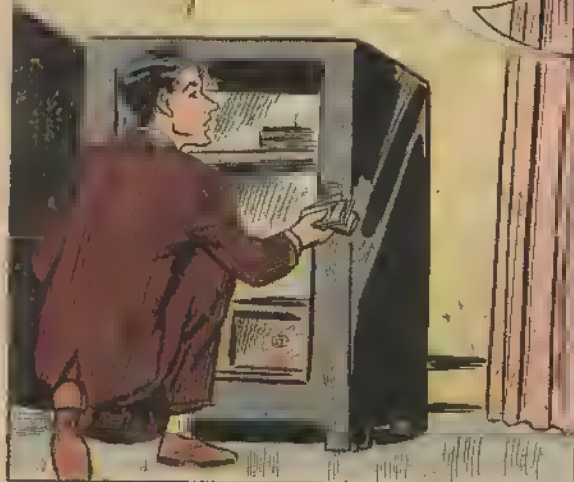
I'VE GOT TO, MR. URBAN!

I THOUGHT HE'D NEVER GO! I'VE GOT TO GET TWO THOUSAND FOR CURLY OR THEY'LL TURN ME IN! I CAN COVER THE SHORTAGE IN THE BOOKS!



EIGHTEEN HUNDRED, NINETEEN HUN...

HOMER! I WAS AFRAID I WAS RIGHT ABOUT YOU!



MR. URBAN WASTED NO TIME! HE CALLED THE POLICE! FINALLY, AFTER HOMER'S STORY WAS TOLD AND RETOLD, TED RINK OF THE RACKET SQUAD TOOK CHARGE...

YOU SHOULD'VE COME TO THE POLICE AT ONCE, CRANE! LET'S SEE THAT CLIPPING! AND DESCRIBE THE DEAD CARD PLAYER ONCE MORE!



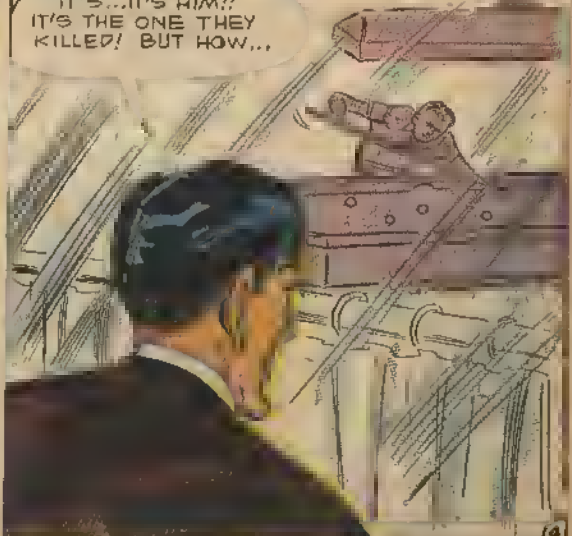
AFTER HOURS OF QUESTIONS TED RINK TOOK HOMER FOR A DRIVE...

WHAT'RE WE COMIN' HERE FOR?

I'VE GOT A SURPRISE FOR YOU! JUST PEEK IN THE WINDOW, THAT'S ALL! AND TELL ME WHO YOU SEE...



IT'S...IT'S HIM!! IT'S THE ONE THEY KILLED! BUT HOW...



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

IT WAS THE SAME MAN! AND TED RINK HAD A PLAN! HE HAD HOMER MAKE A PHONE CALL...

LISTEN, YOU TWO! HOMER'S GONNA PAY ONE LAST TIME... FIVE GRAND, AND IT'S THE LAST ONE! WHADDYA SAY WE LET HIM MEET DUTCH AGAIN! IT'LL BE GOOD FOR A LAUGH!

I'LL BE GLAD WHEN THEY'RE IN JAIL!

DON'T FORGET, YOU BROKE THE LAW TOO! THE D.A. COULD INDICT YOU IF HE WANTED TO! OKAY, LET'S GO!

HOMER MET CURLY AND TIGE IN THE SAME PLACE...THEY WERE ENJOYING IT...ESPECIALLY WHEN DUTCH, THE "VICTIM" CAME OUT!

OKAY, HOMER, THE GAME'S OVER! WE GOT YOUR DOUGH-- HERE'S THE CORPSE! SAY SOMETHIN', DUTCH, SO HE WON'T GET SCARED OF A GHOST!

HIYA, CHUMP!

YOU'RE ALL UNDER ARREST! POLICE ARE COVERING ALL THE EXITS, BOYS! DROP IT, CURLY!

LATER, HOMER CRANE LEARNED HE HADN'T BEEN THE BLACKMAIL RING'S ONLY VICTIM! THERE WERE OTHERS PRESENT...

YOU ALL HAD ONE THING IN COMMON! FEAR! FEAR OF SCANDAL, FEAR OF JAIL! AND THE GANG TRADED ON YOUR FEAR!

NONE OF YOU WILL BE PROSECUTED FOR FAILURE TO REPORT A CRIME! YOU'VE ALL BEEN PUNISHED ENOUGH! YOU'LL HAVE TO TESTIFY AGAINST THE MEN, OF COURSE! BUT IF ONE-- ONLY ONE--OF YOU HAD COME FORWARD AT ONCE THEY WOULDN'T HAVE LASTED FIVE MINUTES! OKAY... YOU CAN GO!

END

COLD WEATHER PAYS OFF in Profits for Men Who Sell New Insulated Shoes and Jackets ...

BIG MONEY

with New 2-in-1 Combination Deal



**TOP
MEN
MAKE
\$5-\$10
AN HOUR**
*You
Don't
Invest
a Cent!*
**SALES
OUTFIT
FREE!**

JUST 3 SALES DAILY Earn You Up to \$660 EXTRA Every Month!

Get into a high-paying business you can run from home. We rush you absolutely Free a powerful Starting Business Outfit. It contains everything you need to make exciting cash profits from the first hour. You also get wonderful savings on everything you need for yourself or family.

Take orders for just 3 of these fast-selling combinations a day (our 2-in-1 plan) and you earn up to \$660 per month. Here are just a few of the combinations you can buy from you fast:

- Insulated Jacket and Leather Boot Combination: same type anthers insulation as U.S. Army (Colbar Suit)
- Horseshoe leather jacket lined with real sheepskin
- And extra-comfortable air-cushioned work shoes, also lined with warm fleece
- Smart, luxurious Palmolive Leather Jacket - matching slip-on Moccasins - a New Kaverine Nylon-Rayon Jacket - genuine Shell-Cordovan Leather Oxford (These combinations pay you up to \$5.50 profit per sale) We'll put you in business immediately by rushing a complete Sales Outfit FREE!

You Get Steady REPEAT ORDERS

Beauty of your Mason business is that it brings you exciting profits every month. Satisfied customers buy from you time after time. That's because Mason products are never sold in stores. Folks in your town must buy from you! Here's why it's so easy to make big money:

- You show a selection no store can match! Over 195 dress, sport, work shoe styles - even jackets, raincoats!
- You can fit almost every man and woman, because of our amazing range of sizes (2 1/2-15) and widths (AAAA to EEEE)
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Write today and learn how vigor, health, a fine physique, the admiration of friends can be yours. Follow the simple instructions of my course - only a few minutes a day and you can build your body as I have built mine. You can win trophies as I have won them and be in the limelight - in sports, social events, etc. Act NOW!

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RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

The Model Victim

MISS NATALIE WARDMAN? I'M VINCENT CRAWFORD, OF THE ROYAL MODELING AGENCY! YOU'VE BEEN REFERRED TO ME AS -- YOU ARE BEAUTIFUL!

THANK YOU, MR. CRAWFORD! WON'T YOU COME IN?



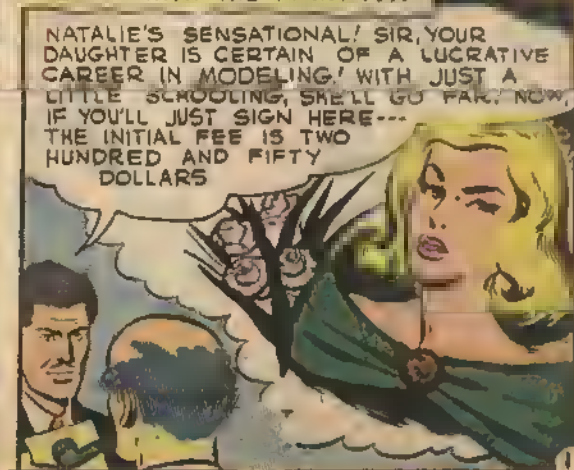
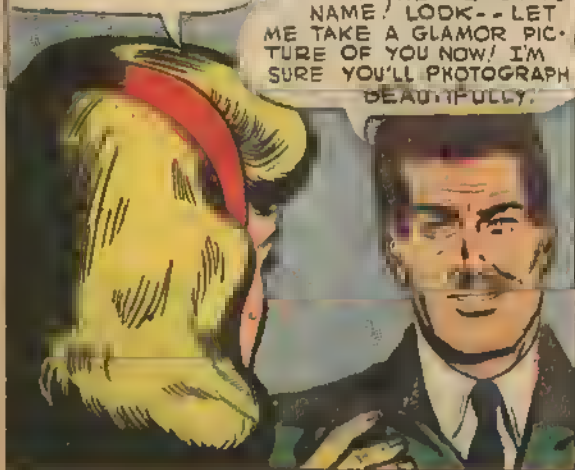
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YOU MENTIONED A REFERENCE? DID SOMEONE...?

OUR AGENCY HAS SCOUTS EVERYWHERE! BUT I WON'T MENTION THE PERSON'S NAME! LOOK -- LET ME TAKE A GLAMOR PICTURE OF YOU NOW! I'M SURE YOU'LL PHOTOGRAPH BEAUTIFULLY.

THAT WAS THE OPENING WEDGE -- THE FOLLOWING EVENING, WHEN NATALIE'S FATHER WAS HOME, CRAWFORD WAS BACK WITH THE "PRINT"....

NATALIE'S SENSATIONAL! SIR, YOUR DAUGHTER IS CERTAIN OF A LUCRATIVE CAREER IN MODELING! WITH JUST A LITTLE SCHOOLING, SHE'LL GO FAR! NOW, IF YOU'LL JUST SIGN HERE -- THE INITIAL FEE IS TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

NATALIE WARDMAN'S FATHER WASN'T WEALTHY... BUT HE SCRAPED UP THE ORIGINAL PAYMENT! CRAWFORD TENDERED A RECEIPT ON ROYAL MODELING AGENCY STATIONERY AND...

THERE YOU ARE, MR. CRAWFORD! TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS!

HERE'S YOUR RECEIPT, SIR! YOU'LL NEVER REGRET THIS!

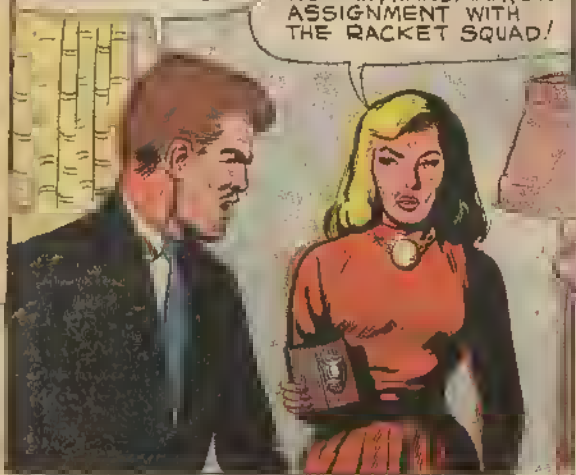


NO, HE WON'T, MR. CRAWFORD! OR IS YOUR RIGHT NAME CROSSSEN? AND THERE REALLY *ISN'T* A ROYAL MODELING AGENCY, IS THERE?



WHAT? ARE YOU CRAZY? OF COURSE THERE'S A...

YOU'RE UNDER ARREST, MISTER! I'M A POLICEWOMAN, WARDMAN, ON ASSIGNMENT WITH THE RACKET SQUAD!



CRAWFORD-- OR CROSSSEN-- TRIED TO RUN BUT...



NICE WORK, NATALIE!

KEEP AN EYE ON HIM, DAN! HE TRIED TO GET AWAY!



LATER...

YOU PLAYED YOUR PART TO PERFECTION, NATALIE! IT WAS EASY ONCE WE SPOTTED THE NEIGHBORHOOD HE WAS WORKING! AFTER WE LEARNED HE'D BEEN TALKING TO BUS DRIVERS ABOUT PRETTY VICTIMS, WE STEERED HIM TO SGT. KELLY'S HOUSE WHERE YOU PRETENDED TO BE KELLY'S DAUGHTER!



End

"Air Conditioned"

"If I told my wife once, then I told her a thousand times," complained Detective Al Norton to his buddy, Detective Ben Egan, "Don't overload the shipping cart. Those wheels are things that can collapse under too heavy a weight. But you know how women are, always figuring they know more than the men folks. Funny thing is that quite often they are right. But not when it comes to a load a wheel will take.

Saturday morning the wife will take the shopping wagon to get what we need at the market. No use trying to take the car cause it requires fifteen minutes to look for a parking place. She figures she can go to the market and be back in less time. I ask her if she needs any help, but she tells me I can relax and stay home.

I took my shoes off and sat down in the big easy chair that my Aunt Bess bought me for my last birthday. It's nice to relax now and then, especially when you are on your feet all day long. The phone rings. Mr. Owen from the market calls and tells me to come over at once, for there's been an accident. But not to get excited. Nothing serious and my wife is o.k.

On the way over I meet Simpson from Traffic D in his car and after telling him about the call he goes along with me. We get to the market and there's a crowd of people around a woman. I see my wife crying. One look at the situation and any woman would shed tears. After overloading the shopping cart, it just died on her. The eggs all cracked; milk spilt over; the cereal boxes were torn and the tomatoes and potatoes had a collision. But she wasn't hurt physically. Just her pride, and that's a lot to any woman. If she had only listened to me."

The phone rang and Al Norton answered it. No need to continue on the topic of a woman and her shopping cart.

"Chief Edward Mirkus wants us in his office at once. Says that he has a man there with a story to tell us. Come on! We can't keep the chief waiting."

The police chief was proud of the two members of his Special Squad. They could handle anything from the ordinary routine matters to

the toughest assignment. The door to his office was opened and they walked in. A middle-aged man dressed in a pair of coveralls was seated on a chair near the Chief's desk.

"Mr. Ganz," said Chief Edward Mirkus, I want you to meet my two best detectives. The one on the right is Al Norton and the other is Ben Egan. Now, you tell them the story word for word. Just the way you told it to me."

"I am superintendent of an apartment house at 2396 Clearview Avenue," began the man. "The entire building is undergoing a renovation, which is supposed to take one week.

This afternoon I noticed something very peculiar. I was observing through the apartments and I closed the windows in each so that if it rains there will be no damage. The screws that were supporting the window type air conditioners were loosened. Now what does that mean? As I figure it out, somebody is going to steal them. But it must be somebody who is working in the building."

"We will stake out the building and watch," suggested Detective Al Norton. "If we find them stealing the air conditioners we can do either one of two things. Make a spot arrest, or follow them and see if there is a gang tied up in this deal. It will probably be a night job. So we park our car and watch. And you can also do some watching, Mr. Ganz."

At six-thirty the two detectives drove in an unmarked car and parked across the street at the corner intersection. This gave them a clear view of the apartments on the east side of the building where the air conditioners would probably be stolen.

"The wife prepared some food for us and a thermos bottle of good hot coffee," said Detective Al Norton.

"So we'll take turns watching," replied Detective Ben Egan. "I don't feel very hungry just now, but later on my appetite may grow."

Both men slouched down on the seat of the car and could hardly be seen by a passer-by. Then they waited and watched. At ten-thirty

Detective Ben Egan felt an empty space inside his stomach.

"What have you got to eat," he asked.

His buddy handed him a chicken leg which he ate quickly. While cleaning his hands with a paper napkin, he spotted the parking of a small truck on the corner near the delivery entrance of the apartment house. He watched two men leave the truck and enter the apartment house. A few minutes later the window on the fourth floor moved slightly and the air conditioner vanished inside.

"Get the number on the plate," advised Detective Ben Egan.

His buddy jumped out of the car quickly and ran over to the parked car and jotted the number down in his note book. Not a second too soon had he returned to his car. The two men with the air conditioner followed and placed it in the truck. Then they went back again into the apartment house. Detective Al Norton spoke over his radio-phone.

"Calling Traffic D. Come on in. Is that you, Sergeant Jameson? Now get it down on paper. The license is AK-789-023. A four ton truck. It's one of those that they rent from the Nelson Auto Renting Service. Check it out for safety as it may be stolen. Then send three squad cars to the neighborhood — but keep out of action unless we lose them on the trail."

The two thieves seemed to be working against time. They loaded up ten air conditioners on their truck and then started to move away. Detective Al Norton was at the wheel of the police car and they followed at a reasonable distance. The truck turned east on Clearview Avenue and went along Parson Boulevard until it came to the end. Then it turned right onto a small dirt road which ended at a junk yard. There the truck stopped and the men unloaded the air conditioners. Detective Ben Egan called in on the radio phone and told the three squad cars to close in on the area. When they appeared, he and his buddy left their car and knocked on the door of the office to the junk yard. There was no answer. Both men went around the back and saw a light. They waited patiently and soon three men came out.

"Don't move," ordered Detective Al Norton. "We are officers of the law. This place is surrounded by police, so just use your common sense. We go back into the office and fool around."

"What kind of nonsense is this?" demanded the voice of a well dressed man who was the third man. "Can't I transact legitimate business

any time of the day or night?"

"Legitimate business — yes," reprimanded Detective Ben Egan. "But those air conditioners were just stolen from an apartment house on Clearview Avenue."

"How dare you two men offer to sell me stolen property," scolded the well dressed man. "Everybody knows that Henry Daly is an honest man. Arrest those two right now, officer."

The two thieves said nothing for a minute. Even in the dark you could see the startled look on their faces. Then the taller of the two spoke.

"You an honest guy? Who are you trying to kid! You were the one who put us up to this, told us you have a cinch of an idea. We work in the building loosening the screws of the air conditioners, then come back at night. Get the super and tap him on the head. Lift his pass keys from his pocket. Nothing could go wrong, eh? Well you go figure this one out. Officer you might as well make it a triple arrest. We'll talk."

The three men were taken to Police Headquarters. Mr. Banz had not been seriously injured, just a slight bump but no concussions. The police surgeon gave him a thorough check up.

"Mr. Ganz," he reported. "Take it as a compliment and not as an insult. You have a thick skull."

The names of the two thieves were Frank Lynch and Joe Carinnot. Both wrote complete statements. Henry Daly still played the part of the indignant man.

"I shall call my lawyer and sue for false arrest, not a word they say is true. They couldn't prove a word of it."

"Oh yes we could," interrupted Frank Lynch. "You gave me that special folding screw driver, so I could lean out of the window and work safely at an angle. It is in the bottom of your desk. Part of it was bent when I worked on one of the machines. Maybe the police can do a matching job, like they do in those detective stories."

Cold sweat began to appear on the face of Henry Daly. He asked for a pen and paper. Then he made an admission.

"Mind you," he warned the two detectives. "This is my first and last job."

"We won't argue whether it is the first or not," replied Detective Al Norton. "But the last it will be for some time, of that we are certain."

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TWIST INTO A THOUSAND SHAPES!

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Almost 5 feet long when inflated. Balloons this size usually sell up to 25c each!

Send only \$1 now for 200 in a variety of gay colors! (Plus 25c for Postage and Handling.)

Supply limited at this low price, so order several sets NOW for GUARANTEED PROMPT DELIVERY. MONEY BACK GUARANTEE.

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RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

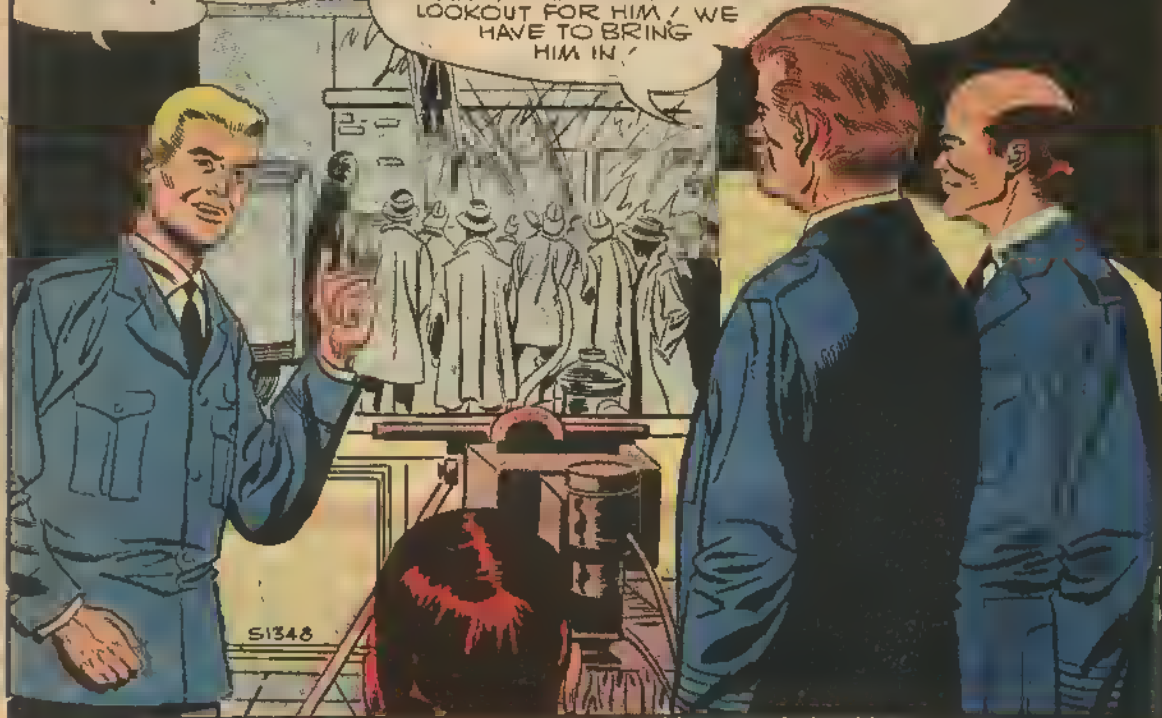
49-50 Fiction
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IN THE CAMERA'S EYE!

THE CAMERA HAS BECOME ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT WEAPONS IN THE NEVER CEASING WAR ON CRIMINALS. PROPERLY USED, IT SOLVES CRIMES, BETRAYS CRIMINALS AND HELPS TO CONVICT THEM WHEN ALL OTHER METHODS MIGHT BE INEFFECTIVE... ROOKIE COP BILL ODUM WAS AN ENTHUSIASTIC PHOTOGRAPHER, AND OFTEN TOOK HIS CAMERA WITH HIM ON HIS OFF HOURS OF PROWLING THROUGH THE CITY'S STREETS...

THAT ONE, ON THE EXTREME LEFT, SIR! HE SEEMS TO BE AT A LOT OF FIRES!

GOOD! HAVE THAT PICTURE BLOWN UP AND SENT TO ALL PRECINCTS! ALSO TO ALL FIRE STATIONS SO THEY'LL BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR HIM! WE HAVE TO BRING HIM IN!



BILL ODUM'S DEVOTION TO TAKING PICTURES ON HIS WAY HOME AFTER HIS DAY ON THE BEAT WAS WELL KNOWN TO HIS FRIENDS...

BILL, I BOUGHT SOME KODAK STOCK JUST BECAUSE YOU TAKE SO MANY PICTURES--SO DON'T SLACK OFF NOW!

I'LL TRY NOT TO, DANNY!

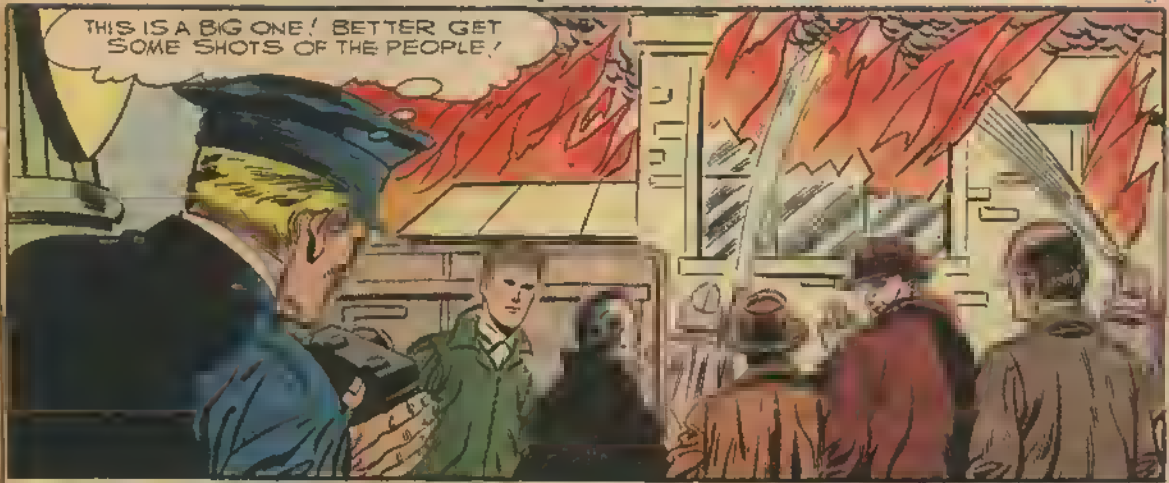


LATER...

ANOTHER FIRE! NO WONDER THE COMMISSIONER'S SO WORRIED ABOUT CATCHING THAT ARSONIST!

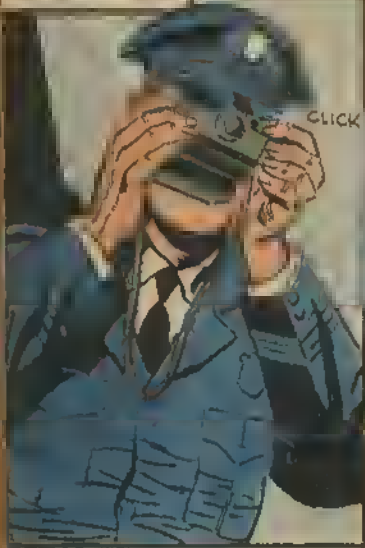


RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION



THIS IS A BIG ONE! BETTER GET SOME SHOTS OF THE PEOPLE!

IT WAS A BIG BLAZE AND THE SPECTATORS HARDLY NOTICED THAT BILL ODUM TOOK PICTURES OF THEM RATHER THAN OF THE FIRE ...



CLICK



CLICK



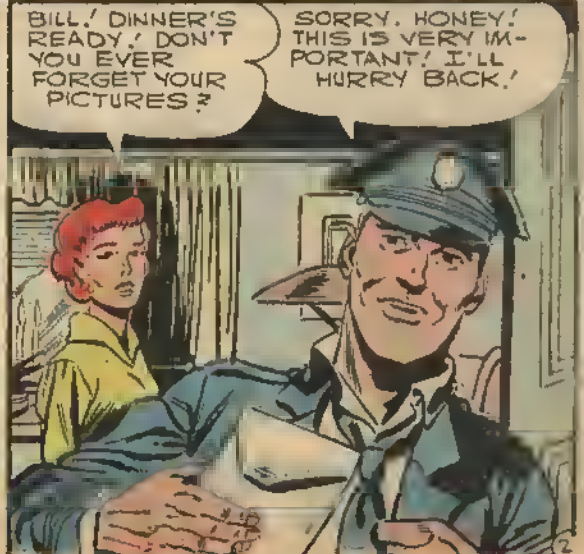
THERE! I THINK THAT'S ENOUGH FOR NOW! I'LL DEVELOP THESE RIGHT AWAY!

I'LL BE ... THE COMMISSIONER'S GOT TO SEE THESE RIGHT AWAY!

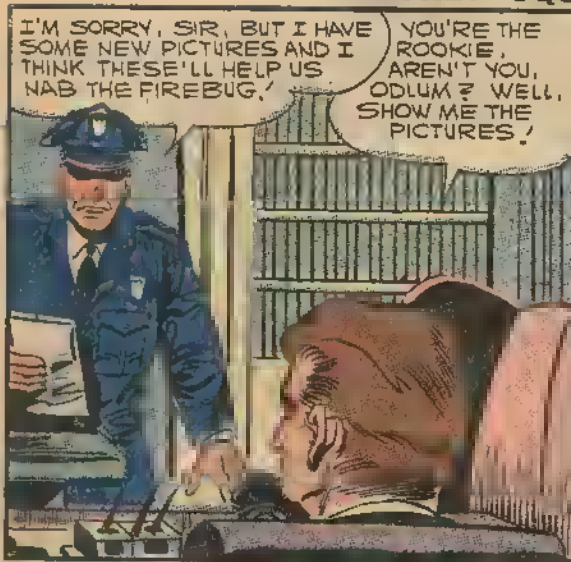


BILL! DINNER'S READY! DON'T YOU EVER FORGET YOUR PICTURES?

SORRY, HONEY! THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT! I'LL HURRY BACK!



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION



I'M SORRY, SIR, BUT I HAVE SOME NEW PICTURES AND I THINK THESE'LL HELP US NAB THE FIREBUG.

YOU'RE THE ROOKIE, AREN'T YOU, ODUM? WELL, SHOW ME THE PICTURES!



YES, I SEE IT'S THE SAME MAN! BUT THE ALARM IS OUT! HOW DOES THIS HELP ANY?

WE HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO GET A LEAD ON HIM UP TO NOW! BUT LOOK HERE, WE CAN NARROW THE SEARCH, I THINK!



YOU SEE THAT PIN, SIR? IT'S THE EMBLEM OF THE MARVELS, A HIGH SCHOOL SOCIETY! HE MUST HAVE BEEN A MEMBER YEARS AGO!

BUT THIS MAN IS FORTY YEARS OLD AT LEAST! HOW WILL WE TRACE HIM?



DON'T YOU SEE, SIR? HE'S ABOUT FORTY YEARS OLD! HE COULD HAVE BEEN ELECTED ONLY IN HIS SENIOR YEAR! THAT WOULD BE ABOUT TWENTY-TWO YEARS AGO! NOW HERE'S MY NOTION...



JERRY, I WANT YOU TO HELP OFFICER ODUM ALL YOU CAN! HE'S GOT A GREAT IDEA HERE!

THANKS, COMMISSIONER! I'LL GET TO WORK!



WHAT ON EARTH... BILL ODUM, WHAT KIND OF NONSENSE IS THIS?

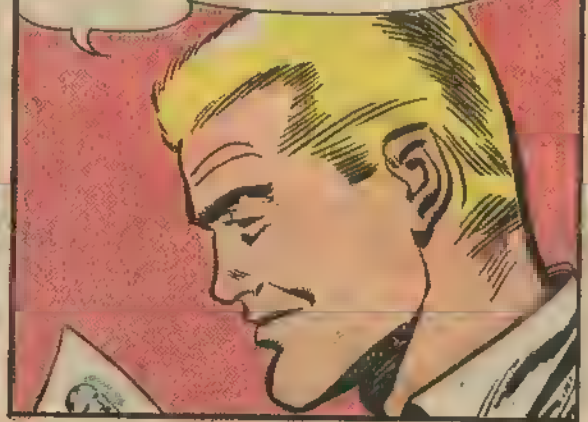
RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

YOU SEE, HONEY, FIREBUGS CAN'T RESIST WATCHING THE FIRES THEY 'START.' NOW, AT ALL FIRES I WATCHED, THIS IS THE ONLY ONE WHO'S ALWAYS IN THE CROWD. SO IT'S REASONABLE TO BELIEVE HE'S THE FIREBUG.

ALL RIGHT, BUT WHY ALL THESE YEAR BOOKS?



HE'S WEARING THE PIN OF A SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL CLUB AND HE SHOULD HAVE GRADUATED ABOUT 1934-- TWENTY-TWO YEARS AGO! SO I'M SEARCHING FOR HIM IN THE YEAR BOOKS FROM 1930 TO 1940.



I'M ABOUT READY TO GIVE UP. WE HAVEN'T FOUND HIM YET.

THERE'S ONLY A FEW MORE, HONEY. I'LL FINISH UP.



I'VE GOT IT, HONEY! I'M GOING TO HEADQUARTERS.



HERE IT IS, SIR! WE'VE GOT IT!

GOOD, ODLUM! LET ME SEE IT!

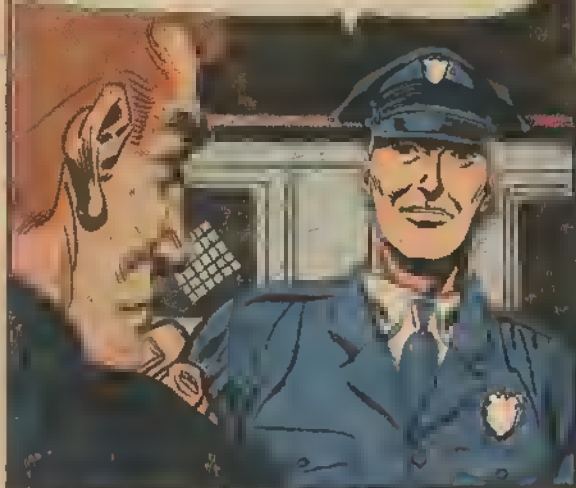


HERE'S ALL WE NEED TO TRACK HIM DOWN.



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

I'LL GET OVER TO WALNUT STREET RIGHT AWAY AND START THE SEARCH!



WHAT LUCK! HE STILL LIVES HERE!



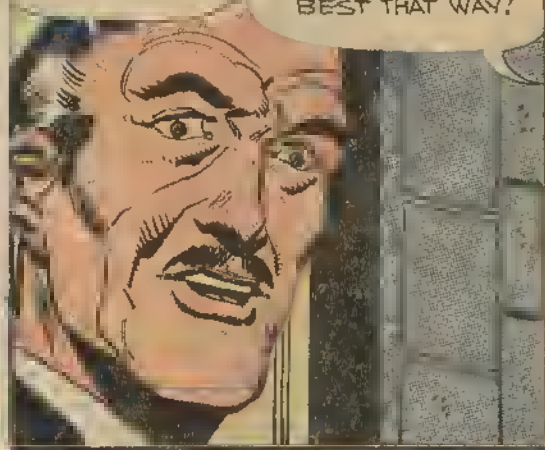
YES, I'M JEROME ROGERS! WHAT IS IT?

YOU'RE WANTED FOR ARSON, BETTER COME ALONG QUIETLY!



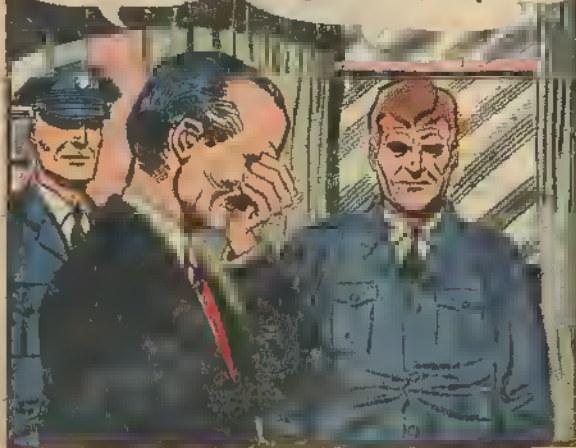
THERE'S SOME MISTAKE! I DON'T HAVE TO GO...

THERE'S NO MISTAKE, ROGERS! COME ALONG QUIETLY-- IT'S BEST THAT WAY!



ALL RIGHT! I CONFESS-- BUT HOW DID YOU KNOW?

BECAUSE PATROLMAN ODLUM IS ALERT AND A CAMERA FAN! HERE'S THE PICTURE THAT SEWED IT UP!



AND I THOUGHT I WAS KEEPING OUT OF EVERYONE'S EYE!

EXCEPT THE CAMERA'S EYE!



END

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

SOREHEAD

I'M A COP. JOE PRIDE'S THE NAME. MY PARTNER IS HANK O'HARE
WE WERE WORKING THE ROBBERY DETAIL AND IT WAS HOT IN THE CITY
THAT NIGHT. WE GOT A CALL THAT THE APARTMENT OF A MAN NAMED
PENN' HAD BEEN ROBBED. UP IN HILL SECTION --



9:05... WE ARRIVED AT THE SCENE....

NICE LOOKING BUILDING

YEAH... I COULD USE A BALCONY LIKE THAT MYSELF IN THIS WEATHER.



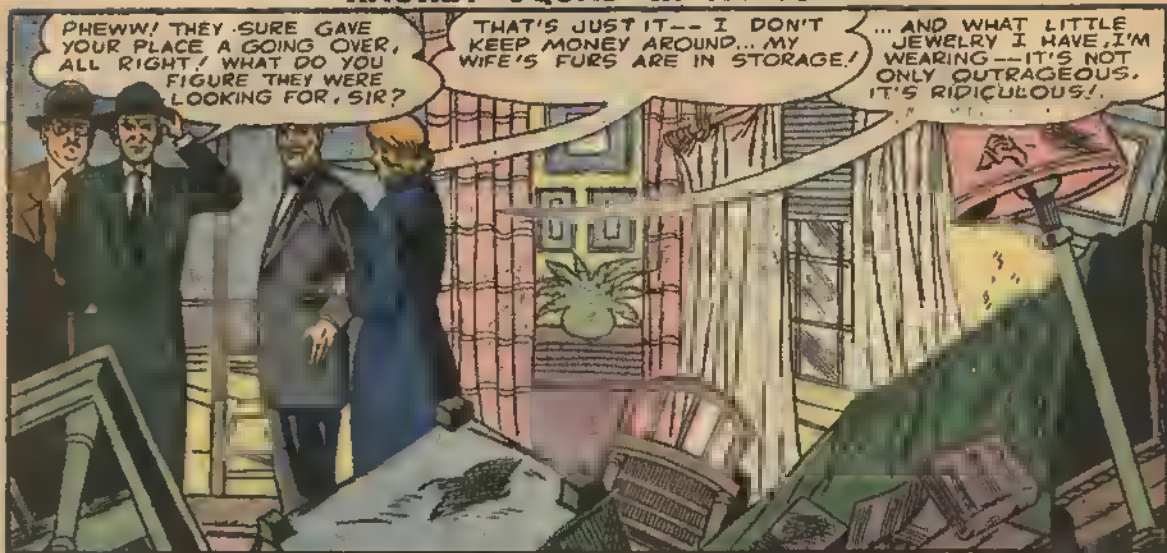
THE APARTMENT WAS ON THE SECOND FLOOR

DETECTIVES, MR. PENN... I'M SERGEANT PRIDE... THIS IS HANK O'HARE

COME ON IN -- LOOK WHAT THEY'VE DONE TO MY PLACE!



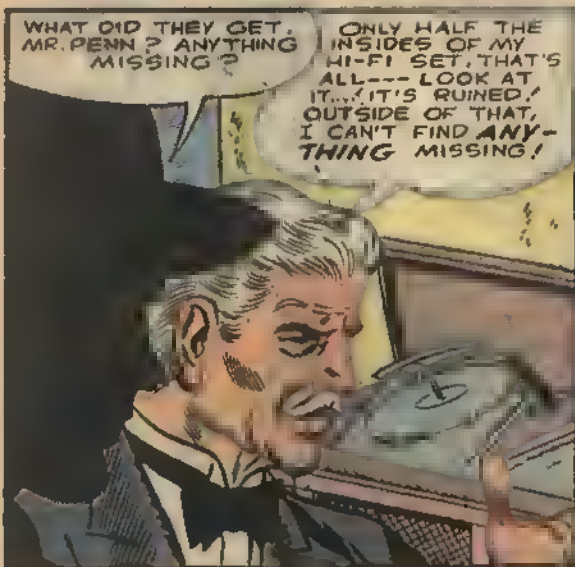
RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION



PHEWW! THEY SURE GAVE YOUR PLACE A GOING OVER, ALL RIGHT! WHAT DO YOU FIGURE THEY WERE LOOKING FOR, SIR?

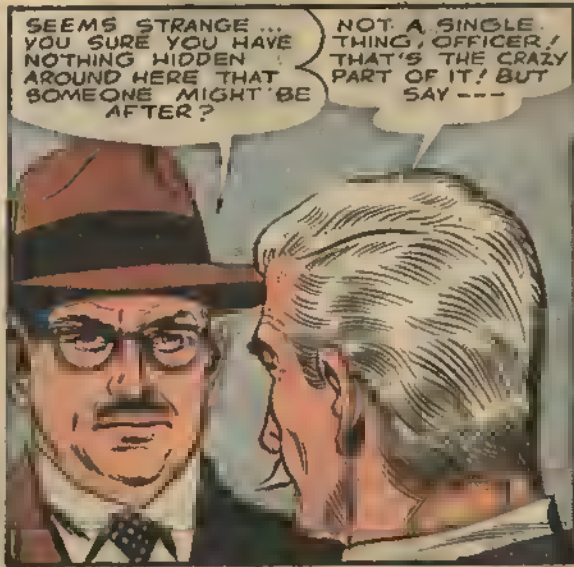
THAT'S JUST IT-- I DON'T KEEP MONEY AROUND... MY WIFE'S FURS ARE IN STORAGE!

... AND WHAT LITTLE JEWELRY I HAVE, I'M WEARING--IT'S NOT ONLY OUTRAGEOUS, IT'S RIDICULOUS!



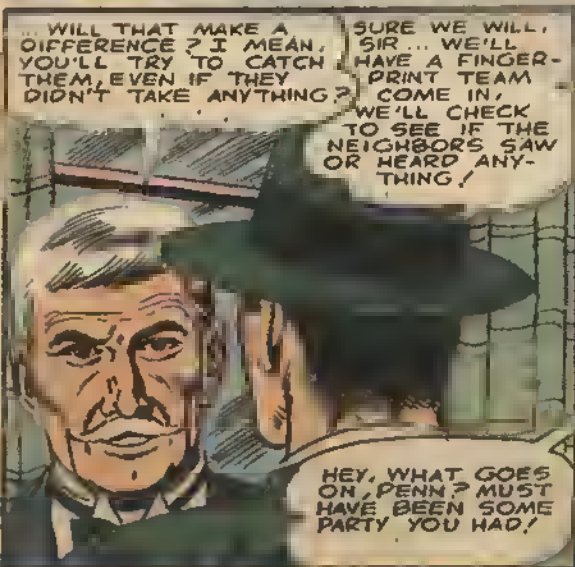
WHAT DID THEY GET, MR. PENN? ANYTHING MISSING?

ONLY HALF THE INSIDES OF MY HI-FI SET, THAT'S ALL--- LOOK AT IT... IT'S RUINED! OUTSIDE OF THAT, I CAN'T FIND ANYTHING MISSING!



SEEMS STRANGE ... YOU SURE YOU HAVE NOTHING HIDDEN AROUND HERE THAT SOMEONE MIGHT BE AFTER?

NOT A SINGLE THING, OFFICER! THAT'S THE CRAZY PART OF IT! BUT SAY---



... WILL THAT MAKE A DIFFERENCE? I MEAN, YOU'LL TRY TO CATCH THEM, EVEN IF THEY DIDN'T TAKE ANYTHING?

SURE WE WILL, SIR ... WE'LL HAVE A FINGER-PRINT TEAM COME IN, WE'LL CHECK TO SEE IF THE NEIGHBORS SAW OR HEARD ANYTHING!

HEY, WHAT GOES ON, PENN? MUST HAVE BEEN SOME PARTY YOU HAD!



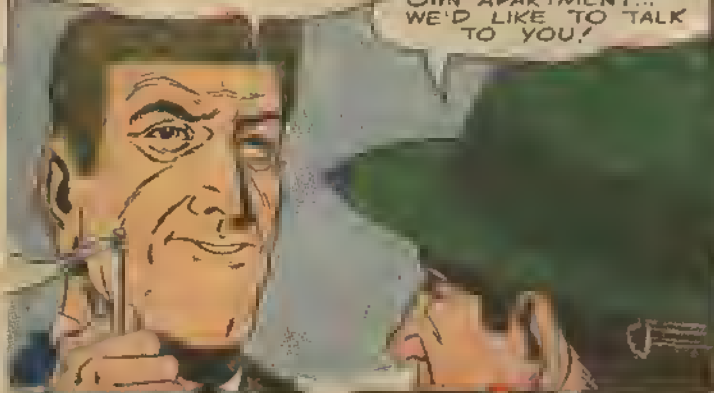
IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS, HARRIS... JUST GO ABOUT YOUR OWN BUSINESS AND

JUST A MINUTE-- YOU A NEIGHBOR, MR. HARRIS?

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

THAT'S RIGHT, APARTMENT
RIGHT NEXT DOOR, WORSE
LUCK!

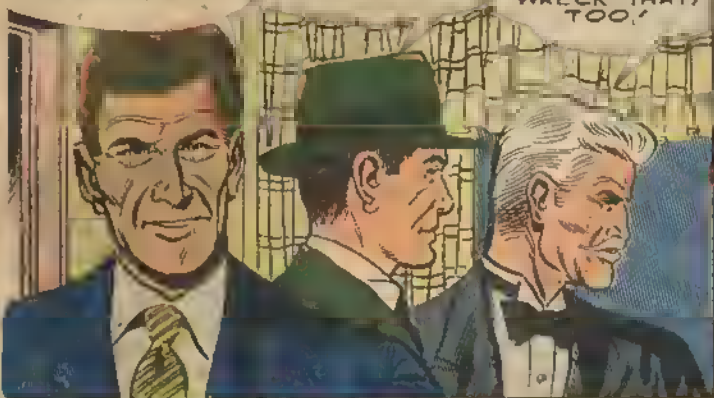
WE'D APPRECIATE
IT IF YOU'D WAIT
FOR US IN YOUR
OWN APARTMENT...
WE'D LIKE TO TALK
TO YOU!



SURE--I'M ALWAYS
WILLING TO
COOPERATE!

LIKE TO USE
YOUR PHONE, MR.
PENN!

RIGHT OVER
THERE... IF
THEY DIDN'T
WRECK THAT,
TOO!



WE PHONED IT IN, GOT
THE PRINT TEAM AND
THE REST ON THE WAY...
THEN WE WENT TO
VISIT HARRIS...

WHAT DO YOU
THINK, JOE?
SOMETHING
PHONY?

COULD BE...
MAYBE THE
PENNS ARE
HOLDING BACK,
DON'T WANT US
TO KNOW WHAT
THEY HAD HIDDEN!
COULD BE JEWELS,
MONEY-- COULD
BE AN INSURANCE
SWINDLE! WE'LL
HAVE TO CHECK
IT ALL!



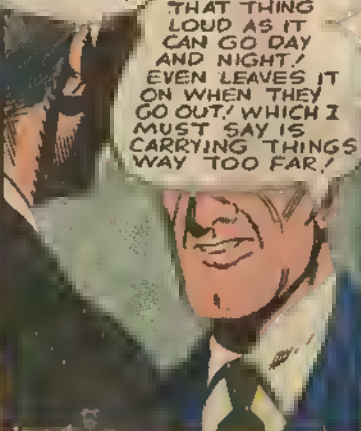
ONE THING WE'LL PROB-
ABLY HAVE TO DO IS
PUT A TAIL ON THE
PENNS. SEE IF THEY'RE
IN SOME RACKET... WELL,
LET'S SEE WHAT HARRIS
HAS TO SAY!



HARRIS WAS CO-
OPERATIVE, ALL
RIGHT--BUT HE
HADN'T HEARD OR
SEEN ANYTHING
SUSPICIOUS... HE WAS
QUITE A TALKER THOUGH...

WHAT DO YOU
MEAN WHEN
YOU SAID YOUR
APARTMENT
WAS 'RIGHT'
NEXT DOOR,
WORSE
LUCK, MR.
HARRIS?

OH, THAT...
WELL, I'M
NOT A
COMPLAINER,
UNDERSTAND,
BUT PENN IS
A HI-FI NUT!
DRIVES US ALL
CRAZY, PLAYING
THAT THING
LOUD AS IT
CAN GO DAY
AND NIGHT!
EVEN LEAVES IT
ON WHEN THEY
GO OUT! WHICH I
MUST SAY IS
CARRYING THINGS
WAY TOO FAR!



I SEE... WELL,
THANK YOU, SIR.
IF YOU THINK
OF ANYTHING
ELSE, LET US
KNOW!

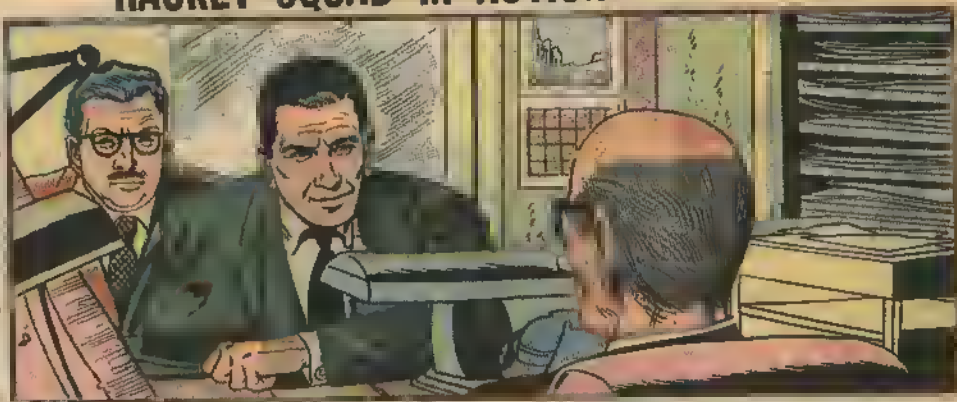
SURE! I'M
ALL FOR
ARRESTING
EVERY CROOK
IN SIGHT!
BUT YOU KNOW
SOMETHING? I
CAN'T BE SORRY
ABOUT THAT HI-
FI SET GETTING
DUSTED. MIGHT
GET A FEW DAYS
OF PEACE AROUND
HERE!



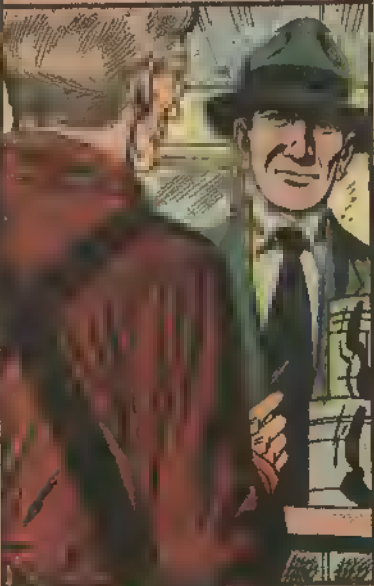
RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION



IT DIDN'T HANG RIGHT... SO WE STARTED TO DO SOME SPADE WORK ON PEHH... CHECKED THE ADVERTISING AGENCY WHERE HE WORKED... NOTHING BUT A GOOD WORD FOR HIM THERE....



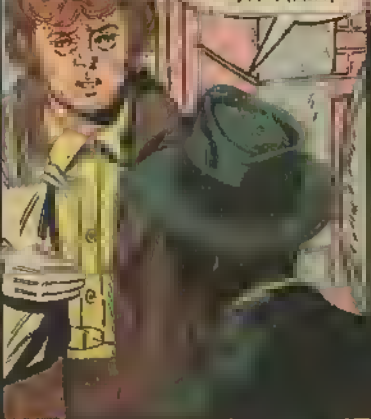
THE TRADE PEOPLE KNEW THE PENNS AND LIKED THEM... SEEMS THEY'D LIVED IN THE SAME PLACE FOR FIVE YEARS AND ALWAYS PAID THEIR BILLS....



WE GOT MORE OF THE SAME FROM THE NEIGHBORS, EXCEPT THAT SOME OF THEM HAD THE SAME COMPLAINT HARRIS HAD....

OH, THEY'RE NICE ENOUGH, I GUESS... BUT THAT LOUD MUSIC! IT'S ENOUGH TO DRIVE A PERSON INSANE!

BUT YOU DIDN'T SEE OR HEAR ANYTHING THAT NIGHT? WELL, THANKS FOR YOUR TROUBLE, M'AM!



FOUR DAYS PASSED... WE WERE GETTING NOWHERE, EITHER WITH QUESTIONS OR TAILING THE PENNS....

THEY BOUGHT ALL NEW FURNITURE, AND THERE GOES A NEW HI-FI! PENN MUST BE DOING ALL RIGHT!

NOT TOO ALL RIGHT, THOUGH! IT FITS WITH THE KIND OF MONEY HE DRAWS IN HIS JOB!



WE CHECKED THEIR EVERY MOVE, BUT THEY NEVER DID ANYTHING OUT OF THE ORDINARY....

MOVIES AGAIN-- GETTING MONOTONOUS!



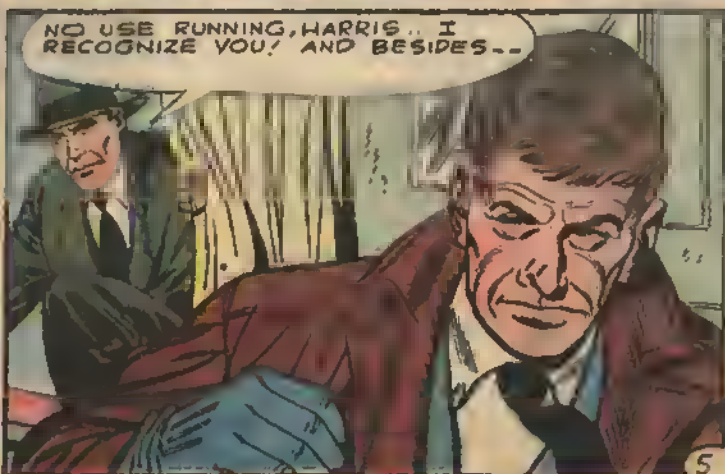
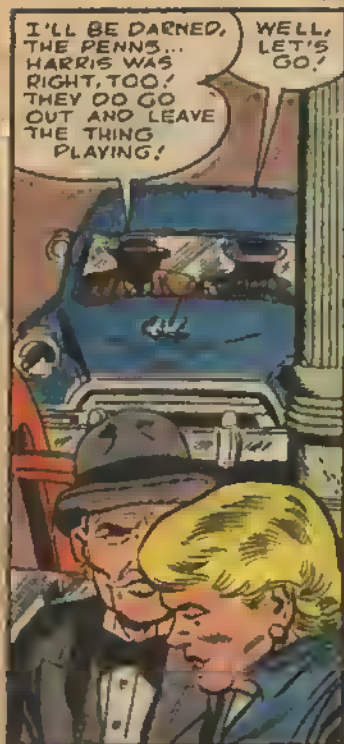
TWO MORE DAYS PASSED... FRIDAY, JUNE 3, 8:25 PM. WE WERE SITTING IT OUT IN FRONT OF THE PENNS' APARTMENT HOUSE....

NEIGHBORS WERE RIGHT ABOUT ONE THING... THEY SURE PLAY THAT MUSIC LOUD! YOU CAN HEAR IT ALL OVER THE BLOCK!

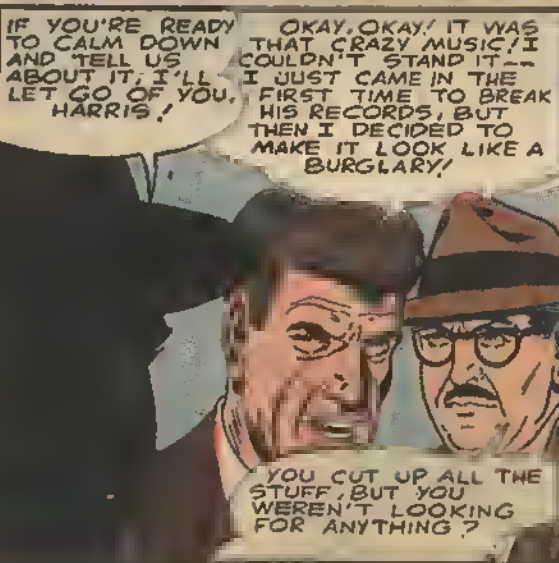
HANK-- LOOK!



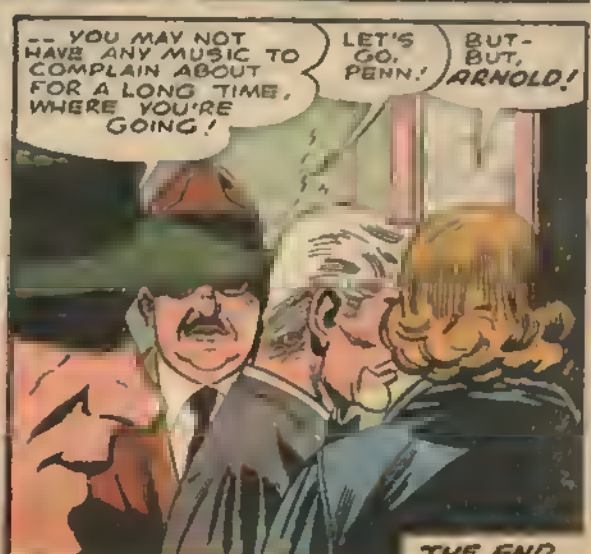
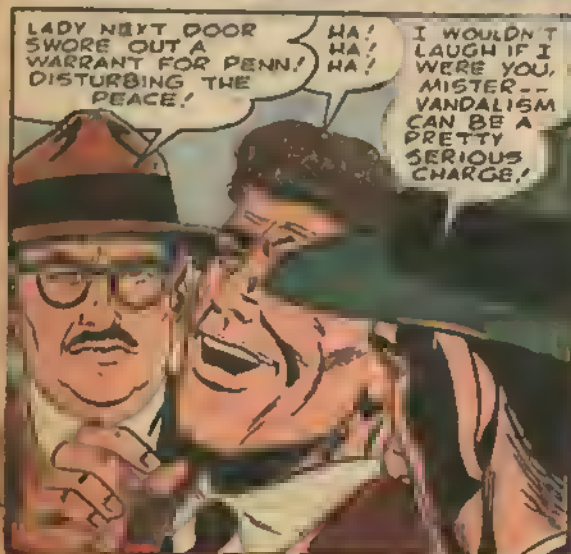
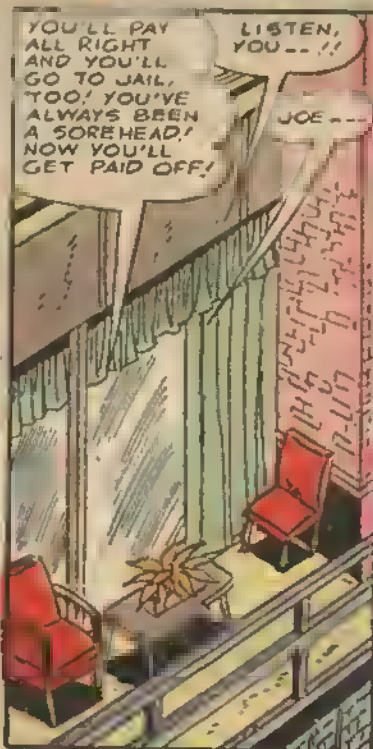
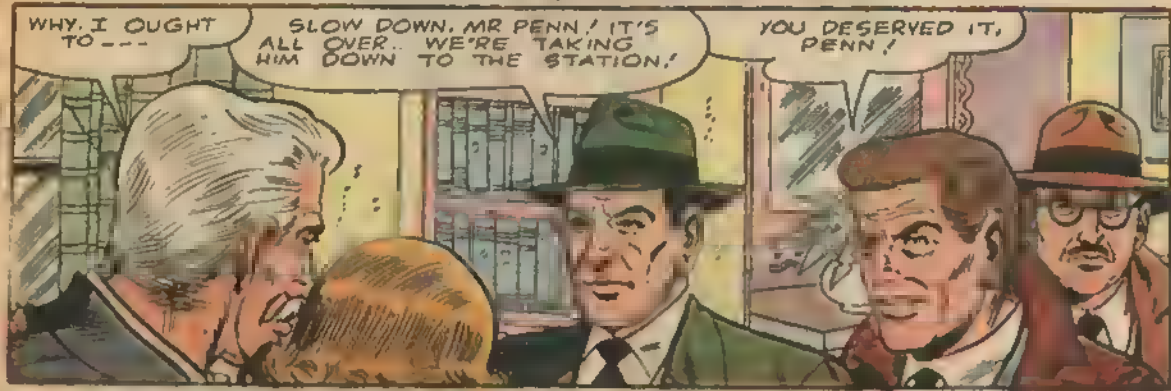
RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION



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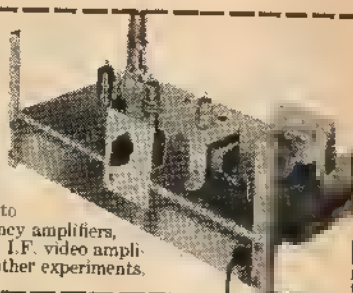


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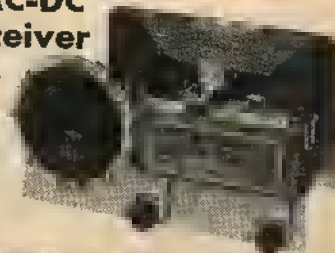
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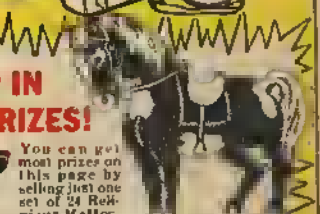
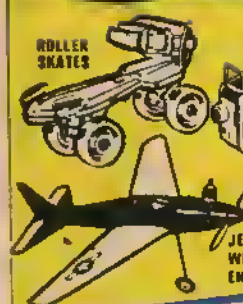
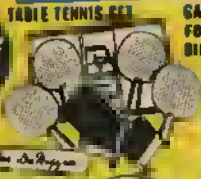
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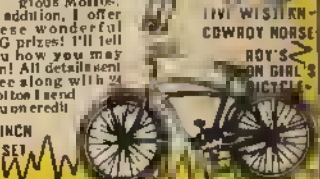
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